On Top Of The News

INSIDE TODAY WORLD NEWS



This undated photo released by Bridgeman Art Library International, shows Amadeo Modigliani's 'La femme a l'eventail'. The painting is one of five that a lone thief stole in a brazen overnight heist Thursday from the Paris Museum of Modern Art.

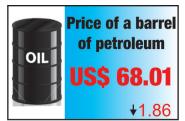
Read more on Page A9

SPORTS NEWS



Floyd Landis at his hearing in this May 22, 2007 file photo. His lawyers are disputing the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency's case. Landis has sent a series of e-mails to cycling officials and sponsors admitting to the use of performance enhancing drugs, the Wall Street Journal reported on May 20, 2010.

Read more on Page A12



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Friday, May 21, 2010

Oil hits Louisiana shore, edges into key current

MICHAEL KUNZELMAN

Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — BP conceded Thursday that more oil than it estimated is gushing into the Gulf of Mexico as heavy crude washed into Louisiana's wetlands for the first time, feeding worries and uncertainty about the massive monthlong

Mark Proegler, a spokesman for oil giant BP PLC, said a milelong tube inserted into a leaking pipe over the weekend is now capturing 210,000 gallons a day — the total amount the company and the Coast Guard have estimated is gushing into the sea — but that some is still escaping. He would not say how

Several professors who have watched video of the leak have already said they believe the amount gushing out is much higher than the official estimates.

Continued on Page 5



American hikers Shane Bauer, left, Josh Fattal, rear at center, and Sarah Shourd, wait to see their mothers at the Esteghlal hotel in Tehran, Iran, Thursday, May 20, 2010...

Three Americans jailed in Iran reunite with their mothers

BRIAN MURPHY

NASSER KARIMI

Associated Press Writers

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Three Americans jailed in Iran for 10 months embraced their mothers and spoke of their life in Tehran's most dreaded prison Thursday in an emotional reunion that Iranian authorities broadcast on a main international channel

Continued on Page 6





Oil impacted marshes are seen of Pass a Loutre, La., Wednesday, May 19, 2010. Oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is infiltrating the coast of Louisiana.

National intelligence director resigning



FILE - In this Jan. 22, 2009 file photo, National Intelligence Director-designate Dennis Blair delivers his opening statement on Capitol Hill in Washington, during the Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on his nomination. Sources say that Blair is resigning.

Associated Press

By EILEEN SULLIVAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - National Intelligence Director Dennis Blair said Thursday he is resigning, ending a tumultuous 16-month tenure marked by intelligence failures and turf wars among the country's spy agencies.

Continued on Next Page



Friday, May 21, 2010 UP FRONT

Aruba IODAY

Mexico's Calderon criticizes state immigration



Mexican President Felipe Calderon addresses a joint meeting of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, May 20, 2010. Behind him is House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., right, and Vice President Joe Biden.

By JIM ABRAMS Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - Mexican President Felipe Calderon took his opposition to a new Arizona immigration law to Congress Thursday, saying it "ignores a reality that cannot be erased by decree."

Calderon's comments on the Arizona law and his request that Congress do something about the availability of highpowered weapons along the

INTELLEGENCE **DIRECTOR**

Continued from Front Page

Blair, a retired Navy admiral, is the third director of national intelligence, a position created in response public outrage over the failure to prevent the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

In a message to his work force, Blair said his last day would be May 28.

Two government officials said several candidates have been interviewed for the national intelligence director's job, which is to oversee the nation's 16 intelligence agencies. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because the announcement had not yet been made.

His term in office was marked by turf battles with the CIA director and controversial public comments in the wake

Associated Press

border drew criticism from several lawmakers saying he was interfering in U.S. internal matters.

The Mexican leader also told lawmakers reluctant to take up the immigration issue this year that comprehensive immigration reform is crucial to securing the two countries' common border.

Calderon, the first foreign national leader to address Congress this year, said he of the abortive Christmas Day jetliner bombing.

CIA Director Leon Panetta and Blair squared off in May over Blair's effort to choose a personal representative at U.S. embassies to be his eyes and ears abroad, instead of relying on CIA station chiefs, as had been past practice.

Word of Blair's resignation, first reported by ABC News, comes two days after a Senate report criticized his office and other intelligence agencies for new failings that allowed a would-be bomber to board a Detroit-bound airliner on Christmas Day. The Senate Intelligence Committee found that the National Counterterrorism Center was in a position to connect intelligence that could have prevented the potentially deadly attack. As director of

strongly disagrees with the Arizona law that requires police to question people about their immigration status if there's reason to suspect they are in the country illegally.

"It is a law that not only ignores a reality that cannot be erased by decree but also introduces a terrible idea using racial profiling as a basis for law enforcement," he said to cheers, mainly from the Democratic side of the chamber.

Speaking in English, he warned of the risk when "core values we all care about are breached."

Arizona's senior Republican senator, John McCain was not present at the joint meeting, while the office of Jon Kyl, the other Arizona senator, did not respond immediately to inquiries about whether Kyl was present. McCain attended a lunch with Calderon at the State Department Wednesday. McCain issued a statement that it was "unfortunate and disappointing the president of Mexico chose to criticize the state of Arizona by weighing in on a U.S. domestic policy issue during a trip that was meant to reaffirm the unique relationship between our two countries."

And broaching another highly sensitive issue, Calderon urged Congress to restore a ban on assault weapons, saying national intelligence, Blair oversaw the center.

After the airliner bombing attempt, Blair said a new, elite federal interrogation unit of counterterrorism specialists should have been called in to question the suspected bomber, Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab.

But that unit, known as the High-Value Interrogation Group, was not an option because it wasn't ready for action. The HIG team was deployed after the recent Times Square bombing attempt this month, administration officials said this week.

Blair also told Congress that Abdulmutallab continued to provide helpful information to investigators at a time when authorities had hoped to keep the bomber's cooperation secret. With that information easy access to high-powered border where almost anyone weapons is contributing to drug-related violence along the border.

Calderon also took up the Arizona law in a meeting Wednesday with President Barack Obama, who referred to the law as a "misdirected expression of frustration."

The Mexican leader said his country was doing its best, by promoting more jobs and opportunities at home, to reduce the flow of immigrants to the United States.

But he stressed the "need to fix a broken and inefficient system ... the time has come to reduce the causes of migration and to turn this phenomenon into a legal, ordered and secure flow of workers and visitors." Obama is pressing lawmakers to take up legislation that would deal with border security, employment and citizenship. It is questionable whether Congress, in an election year, has an inclination to tackle such a highly sensitive issue. Calderon also got a standing ovation from Democrats when he asked the United States

to stop the flow of assualt weapons and other arms across the border and reinstate the ban on many assault weapons that was enacted in 1994 but allowed to expire during the George W. Bush presidency.

He said there are more than 7,000 gun shops along the can purchase weapons.

Texas Republican John Cornyn said it was inappropriate for Calderon to lecture Americans on state and local law. He defended the Arizona law and added: "moreover, the Second Amendment is not a subject open for diplomatic negotiation, with Mexico or any other nation."

Calderon led off his 40-minute speech by emphasizing Mexico's war against narcotics traffickers that has left roughly 23,000 dead since the end of

But he added that cannot ignore the fact that the challenge to our security has roots on both sides of the border." He cited a statement from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton that, At the end of the day, it is high demand for drugs in the United States and elsewhere that drives much of the illicit trade

Also attending the speech were Attorney General Eric Holder, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

Democrats gave Calderon a rousing cheer when he said Mexico planned to have universal health care by 2012 and said that would be one less reason for Mexicans to migrate to the United States



Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair, center, is joined by directors of the government's various intelligence agencies as the Office of the Director of National Intelligence marks its fifth birthday during a ceremony at ODNI headquarters in McLean, Va., Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Associated Press

divulged, FBI Director Robert Mueller confirmed at the same hearing that Abdulmutallab was cooperating.

Blair was the first Obama official administration describe the deadly shooting rampage at Fort Hood, Texas, last fall as an act of homegrown extremism. The administration had previously been reluctant to call the suspect, an Army psychiatrist, a homegrown terrorist or extremist.

Aruba_TODAY

U.S. NEWS A3 Friday, May 21, 2010



AP-Univision Poll: Hispanic discrimination high

ALAN FRAM,

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Who is discriminated against in America? More Americans say Hispanics than blacks or women — and it is far from just Hispanics who feel that way.

An Associated Press-Univision Poll found that 61 percent of people overall said Hispanics face significant discrimination, compared with 52 percent who said blacks do and 50 percent who said women.

The survey also underscored how perceptions of prejudice can vary by ethnicity. While 81 percent of Latinos said Hispanics confront a lot or some discrimination, a smaller but still substantial 59 percent of non-Hispanics said so.

It is not unusual for members of a group to feel they face more prejudice. In this survey, that was especially true when people were asked about "a lot" of discrimination. Fifty-five percent of Hispanics but only 24 percent of non-Hispanics said Hispanics encounter that.

"I see it in people's faces, in the way they react," said Raymond Angulo, 66, a Mexicanborn U.S. citizen and retiree from Pico Rivera, California. "It's gotten somewhat better, but it's still there. I feel like it's never going away."

However, Jason Welty, a lawn care specialist in Indianapolis who is not Hispanic, said he has seen little evidence of the problem despite working frequently with Hispanics.

"They're treated by most of our clients and the people we work with just like anybody else," said Welty, 30.

The AP-Univision Poll compiled the views of 901 Hispanics, which were compared with the results of a separate AP-GfK survey of the general population.

Attention on whether Latinos are singled out for unfair treatment has intensified since last month, when border state Arizona enacted a law requiring local police to ascertain the citizenship of people they suspect of being in the U.S. illegally.

President Barack Obama called the statute "misdirected" Wednesday at a joint news conference with Mexican President Felipe Calderon, and he said the Justice Department will soon complete a review of whether it violates civil rights laws. But others have rallied behind the statute as a needed step with an estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in

the U.S

Lisa Navarrete, vice president of the National Council of La Raza, the Latino advocacy organization, said the poll's findings suggest a silver lining in the country's often bitter debate over immigration.

"For a lot of people, regardless of how they feel about what we should do about immigration, they're recognizing that this community has been singled out and targeted," Navarrete said. About 40 percent of the Hispanics in the survey said they had experienced much discrimination personally — including just 13 percent who said they had dealt with it a lot.

"I was discriminated against, 'You're just a dumb Mexican," said Ric J. Romero, 56, a retiree in Albuquerque, New Mexico, who said he traces his family's origins to Spain, not Mexico. "Yes, there is still very heavy discrimination."

But Sabino Infante, 62, a college admissions counselor from Hesperia, California, said he has never experienced the problem. Infante, who is originally from Mexico, attributed the higher perceptions of prejudice by Hispanics than non-Hispanics to some people having "a chip on their shoulder, an attitude."

Among Hispanics, women are more likely than men to say Latinos suffer discrimination. In addition, Hispanics from cities and rural areas are more likely than those from the suburbs to say Latinos face a lot of prejudice.

Matilde Martinez, 59, a Puerto Rican-born New Yorker, said she believes Mexican immigrants face much mistreatment.

"It causes me a lot of pain," she said in an interview conducted in Spanish. "These people come to work and they do work that the Americans won't do for the little pay they get."

There also are partisan differences. Fifty-five percent of Hispanic Democrats and 38 percent of Hispanic Republicans say there is a lot of discrimination against Hispanics, and Hispanic Democrats are more likely than those in the Republican Party to say they have personally been affected.

Hispanics in the poll perceived discrimination against other groups a bit more often than non-Hispanics did.

Fifty-seven percent of Latinos and 50 percent of non-Hispanics said blacks are discriminated against.





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Senate passes massive Wall Street regulation bill

National Economic Council Director Larry Summers, left, talks with Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs Phil Schiliro, third from right, as Deputy Treasury Secretary Neal Wolin, second right, and others look on after President Barack Obama made a statement on financial reform and Wall Street in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Associated Press

JIM KUHNHENN Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prodded by national anger at Wall Street, the Senate on Thursday passed the most far-reaching restraints on big banks since the Great Depression. In its broad sweep, the massive bill would touch Wall Street CEOs and first-time homebuyers, high-flying traders and small town lenders.

The 59-39 vote represents an important achievement for President Barack Obama, and comes just two months after his health care overhaul became law

The bill must now be reconciled with a House of Representatives version that passed in December. A key House negotiator predicted the legislation would reach Obama's desk before July 4th.

The legislation aims to prevent a recurrence of the near-meltdown of big Wall Street investment banks and the resulting costly bailouts. It calls for new ways to watch for risks in the financial

system and makes it easier to liquidate large failing financial firms. It also writes new rules for complex securities blamed for helping precipitate the 2008 economic crisis, and it creates a new consumer protection agency.

It would impose new restraints on the largest, most interconnected banks and demand proof that borrowers could pay for the simplest of mortgages.

"Our goal is not to punish the banks but to protect the larger economy and the American people from the kind of upheavals that we've seen in the past few years," Obama said earlier Thursday after the Senate cleared a key 60-vote hurdle blocking final action.

The financial industry, Obama said, had tried to stop the new regulations "with hordes of lobbyists and millions of dollars in ads."

Only two Democrats voted against the bill. Four Republicans broke ranks with their party to support it.

It was solidly supported by Obama's Democratic Party, while will hope to use it as a high-water mark of reform when they campaign the the November elections. Republicans uniformly opposed the bill at every turn. Twice the Senate had to beat back efforts by Republicans to delay the bill before achieving final passage.

"The decisions we've made will have an impact on the lives of Americans for decades to come," said Republican Sen. Richard Shelby, who voted against the legislation. "Judgment will not be rendered by self-congratulatory press releases, but, rather, by the marketplace.

And the marketplace does not give credit for good intentions."

While Republicans succeeded in amending the bill, they still objected to its sweep, claiming it represented an expansion of government power that would have unintended consequences.

Democrats argued it was a potent response to the financial abuses, regulatory weaknesses and consumer misjudgments that plunged the nation deep into recession.

"To Wall Street, it says: No longer can you recklessly gamble away other people's money," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat. "It says the days of too big to fail are behind us. It says to those who game the system: The game is over."

As House and Senate negotiators meet to work out differences in the bills, the common ground between the two bills will likely tilt toward making the bill tougher on banks rather than weaker. If anything, the political environment has grown more populist since the House passed its bill in December.

Unemployment still hovers around 10 percent, big banks have declared significant if not record profits, and Goldman Sachs is fighting off accusations of fraud from the Securities and Exchange Commission.

REGIONAL A5 Friday, May 21, 2010

OIL

Continued from Front Page Proegler said the 210,000 gallons — 5,000 barrels has always been just an estimate because there is no way of measuring how much is gushing from the seafloor. A live video feed of the leak posted online Thursday at the insistence of U.S. Rep. Edward

J. Markey, a Democrat from Massachusetts, shows what appears to be a large plume of oil and gas still spewing next to the tube that's carrying some of it to the surface.

The well blew out after an explosion a month ago on the offshore drilling rig Deepwater Horizon that killed 11 people. Brown ooze from the spill coated marsh grasses and hung in the shallow water of a wetland at Louisiana's southeastern tip, the first heavy oil seen on shore so far. Gov. Bobby Jindal declared Wednesday it was just the outer edge of the real spill, much heavier than an oily sheen seen before.

"This is the heavy oil that everyone's been fearing that is here now," Jindal said during a boat tour. The wetlands at the mouth of the Mississippi are home to rare birds, mammals and a wide variety of marine life.

BP, which was leasing the rig when it exploded, was marshaling equipment and conducting tests Thursday ahead of a new effort to choke off the oil's flow. Crews hoped that by Sunday they can start a procedure known as a "top kill," which involves pumping heavy mud into the crippled equipment on top of the well, then permanently sealing it with cement.

The procedure has been used before to halt gushing oil above ground, but like other methods BP is exploring it has never been used 5,000 feet below the sea. That's why scientists and engineers have spent much of the last week preparing for the complex operation and taking a series of measurements to make sure that the mission doesn't backfire.

"The philosophy from the beginning is not to take any action which could make the situation worse, and those are the final steps we're doing," said Doug Suttles, BP's chief operating officer.

BP is already sucking up oil through a mile-long tube it managed to insert into the leaking pipe over the weekend.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Wednesday that a small portion of the slick had entered the so-called loop current, a stream of faster moving water that circulates around the Gulf before bending around Florida and up the Atlantic coast. Its arrival may portend a wider environmental catastrophe

affecting the Florida Keys and tourist-dotted beaches along that state's east coast.

Even farther south, U.S. officials were talking to Cuba about how to respond to the spill should it reach the island's northern coast, a U.S. State Department spokesman said. Florida's state meteorologist said it will be at least another seven days before the oil reaches waters west of the Keys, and state officials sought to reassure visitors that its beaches are still clean and safe.



The reflection of Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, second right, and Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser, right, are seen as they tour the oil impactedmarsh of Pass a Loutre, La. on Wednesday, May 19, 2010. Oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is infiltrating the coast of Louisiana.

Associated Press

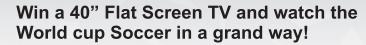




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Arubu TODAY

THREE AMERICANS Continued from Front Page

The women hope their weeklong visit will secure the release of Sarah Shourd, 31; her boyfriend, Shane Bauer, 27; and their friend Josh Fattal, 27.

The mothers threw their arms in the air and rushed to embrace their children as they entered a room at a high-rise hotel that overlooks the Evin Prison where the three have been held.

They cried, laughed and kissed. The conservative Islamic head scarves worn by the mothers slipped back and bouquets of flowers were set aside as they sat together and began to reconstruct their lives since last summer.

The families later ate an abundant lunch together at a feast of rice, kebabs and traditional Middle Eastern dishes. The prisoners ate heartily and appeared to relish the food. The visit was scheduled to last until evening, said the families' Iranian lawyer, Masoud Shafii, but it was not clear whether the three detainees would have to return to the prison for the night.

Iran's main task appeared aimed at leveraging high propaganda value for allowing the visit.

The meeting at the Esteghlal Hotel in north Tehran received extensive coverage on Iran's state-run Press TV, the government's main English-language broadcast arm. Reporters for the foreign media also were allowed their first glimpse of the three Americans since their arrest on the border with Iraq last

The trio has been accused of spying and entering Iran illegally after being detained



From right: Laura Fattal, and her son Josh Fattal, Nora Shourd and her daughter Sarah Shourd, Shane Bauer, and his mother Cindy Hickey, sit during a press briefing, at the Esteghlal hotel in Tehran, Iran, Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Associated Press

on the porous border with Iraq last July. Relatives say the three were simply

largely peaceful mountainous northern Kurdish region.

The decision to give a highly scripted public face to the family moments private suggests the trip by Nora Shourd, Cindy Hickey and Laura Fattal could be drawn deeper into Iran's brinksmanship with the West over Tehran's disputed nuclear program and a U.S.-led push for harsher sanctions.

Lawyer Shafii predicted it was "very unlikely" that the jailed Americans would be allowed to return home with their mothers because the case has not yet reached the courts. But he added in an interview

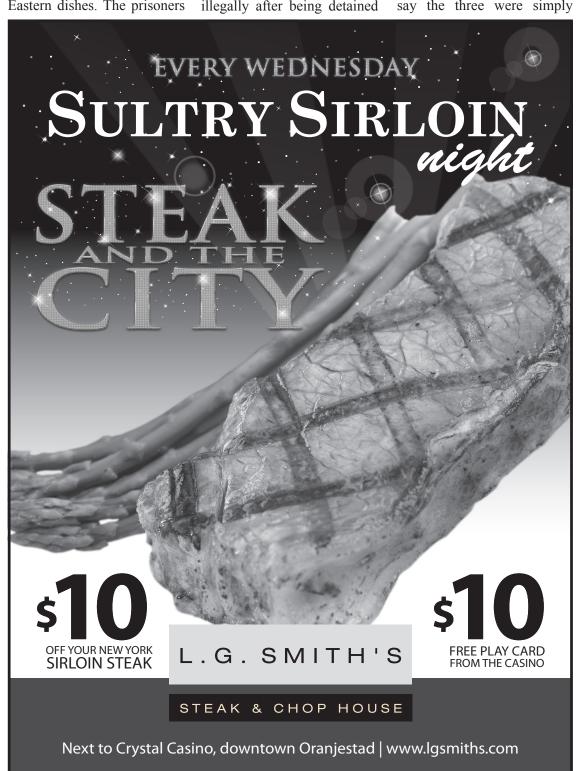
with AP Television News low-slung couch.

hiking in Iraq's scenic and that decisions could be made outside the normal legal framework. "Anything can happen," he said.

> The three prisoners did not specifically address any of the accusations. It's unclear whether this was their decision or a requirement by Iranian officials.

> Iran granted the women visas to visit their children in what it called an "Islamic humanitarian gesture" and the Americans appealed to them to release the three on the same grounds.

> "We hope we're going home soon, maybe with our mothers," Josh Fattal said as the group was interviewed while seated together on a







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WORLD NEWS A7 Friday, May 21, 2010 Pea warns of war if punished for ship sinking

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) North Korea, accused of waging the deadliest attack on the South Korean military since the Korean War, flatly denied sinking a warship Thursday and warned that retaliation would mean "allout war."

Evidence presented Thursday to prove North Korea fired a torpedo that sank a South Korean ship was fabricated Seoul, North Korean naval spokesman Col. Pak In Ho told broadcaster APTN in an exclusive interview in Pyongyang.

He warned that any move to sanction or strike North Korea would be met with force.

"If (South Korea) tries to deal any retaliation or punishment, or if they try sanctions or a strike on us we will answer to this with all-out war," he told APTN.

international An team of civilian and military investigators declared earlier in Seoul that a North Korean submarine fired a homing torpedo at the Cheonan on March 26, ripping the 1,200ton ship in two.

Fifty-eight sailors were rescued, but 46 died — South Korea's worst military disaster since a truce ended the threeyear Korean War in 1953.

President Lee Myung-bak vowed to take "resolute countermeasures" and called an emergency security meeting for Friday.

The White House called the sinking an unacceptable "act

of aggression" that violated international law and the 1953 truce. U.S. troops in and around South Korea remained on the same level of alert, said Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

State Department officials reacted cautiously Thursday, refusing to call the attack an act of war or statesponsored terror. The Obama administration's tempered response was an indication of how few options President Barack Obama has and how volatile the situation is.

"There's no interest in seeing the Korean peninsula explode," said P.J. Crowley, U.S. State Department spokesman.

Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama declared his support for South Korea, calling North Korea's actions "inexcusable."

However, South Korea's options for retaliation are limited.

The armistice prevents Seoul from waging a unilateral military attack, and South Korea would not risk any retaliation that could lead to war, said North Korea expert Yoo Ho-yeol at Korea University in Seoul.

"That could lead to a completely uncontrollable situation," he said, noting that Seoul and its 10 million residents are within striking range of North Korea's forward-deployed artillery.

South Korea and the U.S., which has 28,500 troops on the peninsula, could hold another round of joint military exercises in a show of force,

said Daniel Pinkston, a Seoul-based analyst for the International Crisis Group think tank.

He also said the military

will likely improve its early warning surveillance abilities and anti-submarine warfare capabilities to prevent such surprise attacks in the future. Analysts said Seoul could move to punish North Korea financially, and Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan also has said Seoul would consider taking it to the U.N. Security Council. However, the matter did not arise Thursday during a Security Council meeting on Sudan, several ambassadors

The impoverished country is already suffering from U.N. sanctions tightened last year in the wake of widely condemned nuclear and missile tests.

said afterward.

Any new Security Council action would require backing from permanent seat holder China, but analyst Koh Yuhwan at Seoul's Dongguk University said Beijing, North Korea's traditional ally and backer during the Korean War, was unlikely to accept the Cheonan investigation report. China responded mildly to the report, with Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai calling the sinking "unfortunate" and reiterating the need to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula.

North Korea is accused of waging a slew of attacks on South Korea over the years, including the 1987 downing of a South Korean airliner that killed all 115 people on board.



Yoon Duk-yong, right, co-head of the team investigating the sinking of the South Korean warship Cheonan, talks next to torpedo parts salvaged from the Yellow Sea during a press conference at the Defense Ministry in Seoul Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Associated Press

attacks, and Seoul has never meaning for us." retaliated militarily.

Since the signing of a nonaggression pact in 1991, clashes between the North and South have focused on the waters off their west coast.

North Korea disputes the maritime border drawn unilaterally by U.N. forces at the close of the Korean War, and the area where the Cheonan sank has been the site of several deadly naval clashes, most recently in November.

Pak, the North Korean naval official, said his country had no reason to sink the Cheonan.

"Our Korean People's Army was not founded for the purpose of attacking others. We have no intention of striking others first," he told APTN. "Why would we attack a ship like the Cheonan, which has no relation with us? We have no need to strike it, explanation."

It has never owned up to the and doing so would have no

Investigators from the fivenation team said detailed scientific analysis of the wreckage, as well as fragments recovered from the waters where the Cheonan went down, point to North Korean involvement.

Torpedo fragments found on the seabed "perfectly match" the schematics of a North Korean-made torpedo Pyongyang has tried to sell abroad, chief investigator Yoon Duk-yong said. A serial number on one piece is consistent with markings from a North Korean torpedo that Seoul obtained years earlier, he said.

"The evidence points overwhelmingly to conclusion that the torpedo was fired by a North Korean submarine," he said. "There is no other plausible



A French police officers leaves the house with one of suspected member arrested of Basque separatist group ETA in Bayonne, southwestern France, Thursday May 20, 2010. Spain says leader of Basque separatist group ETA's commando units has been arrested in France.

Associated Press

Spain: Basque separatist leader arrested in France

DANIEL WOOLLS

Associated Press Writer

MADRID (AP) — French police arrested the leader of Basque separatist group ETA Thursday and his second in command, Spanish officials said, calling it an important blow but not a death knell for the violent organization.

It was the sixth arrest of an ETA leader in two vears

Four other people were arrested in the Bayonne area in southwest France.

One is a suspect in ETA's last killing — the shooting of French police officer in a botched car robbery outside Paris in March, Interior Minister Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba told reporters.

He identified the alleged ETA leader as Mikel Kabikoitz Carrera Sarobe and said he was the instigator of major ETA bombings last summer in Spain, one of which killed two policemen on the Mediterranean island of Mallorca.

"He is the maximum leader of ETA right now. He was responsible for its military branch, and thus directed the commando units," Perez Rubalcaba said. Carrera Sarobe was ETA's most wanted suspect for Spanish police.

Aruba_TODAY

Canada's 'Prince of Pot' extradited to Seattle



Marc Emery, the self-described "Prince of Pot" speaks to reporters outside the Supreme Court in Vancouver, British Columbia Monday, May 10, 2010 prior to turning himself in to be extradited to the United States as his wife Jodie, right, looks on.

Associated Press

GENE JOHNSON Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — After a years long battle to avoid extradition, Canada's so-called Prince of Pot was brought Thursday

to Seattle, where he is expected to plead guilty to a charge that he sold millions of marijuana seeds to U.S. customers.

Canada's justice minister signed off on Marc Emery's extradition to the United States on May 10. Emery was scheduled to make an initial appearance Thursday afternoon before pleading guilty on Monday.

Emery, 51, of Vancouver, British Columbia, claimed to have made \$3 million a year before his arrest in 2005, when a grand jury in Seattle indicted him on marijuana conspiracy charges.

His attorney, Richard Troberman, said Emery will plead guilty to one count of conspiracy to manufacture marijuana in exchange for an agreed sentence of five years in prison.

To drug officials, Emery was a pariah whose pot seeds were used in illegal marijuana grows across the United States.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration said his seeds have been traced to grow operations in Indiana, Florida, California, Tennessee, Montana, Virginia, Michigan, New Jersey and North Dakota.

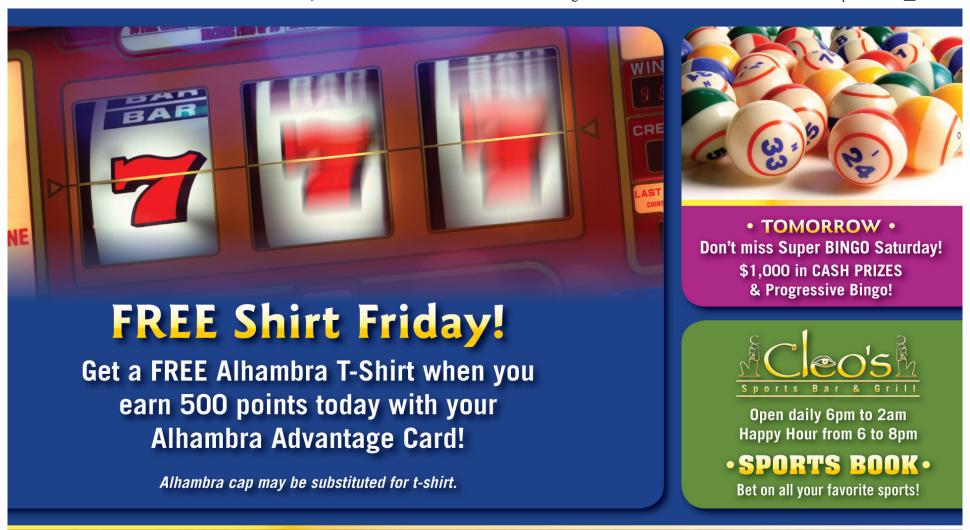
But his supporters view him as a crusader for the use and sale of the drug for both its recreational and medicinal value. They accused the U.S. of launching a politically motivated prosecution to silence a prominent drug-war opponent, and said they were stunned when Canadian Justice Minister Rob Nicholson agreed to extradite Emery.

Emery's wife, Jodie Emery, led a protest march Thursday through downtown Vancouver with about 60 people who waved marijuanaleaf flags and shouted, "Free Marc Emery!"

Emery's Canadian lawyer, Kirk Tousaw, said he planned to ask U.S. authorities to let his client serve his time in a Canadian jail under treaty agreements.

"It's a dark day for Canada," he said. "Now the fight begins to bring him home."

Two employees of Emery's cannabis shop, Emery Seeds, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Seattle last year to conspiracy to manufacture marijuana. They admitted helping take and fill seed orders and were sentenced to probation.





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WORLD NEWS A9 Friday, May 21, 2010



lions stolen from Paris museu

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ANGELA CHARLTON, **Associated Press Writer**

PARIS (AP) — A thief stole five paintings valued at more than \$100 million, including major works by Picasso and Matisse, in an overnight heist Thursday at a Paris modern art museum with a broken alarm system, officials said.

The paintings disappeared early Thursday from the Paris Museum of Modern Art, across the Seine River from the Eiffel Tower in one of the French capital's most chic and touristfrequented neighborhoods.

The museum's alarm system had been broken since March 30 in some rooms, Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoe said in a statement. The security system operator ordered spare parts to fix it but had not yet received the equipment from the supplier, the statement said.

The museum reopened in 2006 after spending €15 million and three years upgrading its security system.

Christophe Girard, deputy culture secretary at Paris City Hall, said a single masked intruder was caught on a video surveillance camera.

Investigators are trying to determine whether the intruder was operating alone, Girard told reporters, who suggested the heist was carried out by

a very "sophisticated" team or individual. He said three guards were on duty overnight, but "they saw nothing."

The intruder entered by cutting a padlock on a gate and breaking a museum window, the Paris prosecutor's office

The prosecutor's office initially estimated the five paintings' total worth at as much as €500 million (\$613 million) but later downgraded that to €90 million (\$112 million). Girard said the total value was "just under 100 million euros.'

He said "Le pigeon aux petits-pois" ("The Pigeon with the Peas") an ochre and brown Cubist oil painting by Pablo Picasso, was worth an estimated €23 million, and "La Pastorale" ("Pastoral"), an oil painting of nudes on a hillside by Henri Matisse about €15 million.

The other paintings stolen were "L'olivier pres de l'Estaque" ("Olive Tree near Estaque") by Georges Braque; "La femme a l'eventail" ("Woman with a Fan") by Amedeo Modigliani; and "Nature morte aux chandeliers" ("Still Life with Chandeliers") by Fernand Leger.

Alice Farren-Bradley of the Art Loss Registry in London said the Paris theft "appears to be one of the biggest" art heists ever, considering the estimated value, the prominence of the artists and the high profile of the museum.

She added, however, that the value of the paintings would have to be confirmed, as museums and art dealers often value paintings differently.

She said it will be "virtually impossible" to sell such prominent paintings on the open market and that typically stolen art fetches lower prices on the black market.

"Very often they can be used as collateral to broker other deals" involving drugs or weapons, she said. "They are not necessarily going to be bought by some great lover of the arts."

While the thefts are often carefully planned, that's not always the case for the next step — selling the stolen paintings — which is why they are often recovered, she said.

Interpol is alerting its national bureaus around the world to the theft.

"This is a big theft, that is very clear," Stephane Thefo, a specialist at Interpol who handles international art theft investigation, told The Associated Press. "These works are of an inestimable value."

He expressed doubt that one



Police officers search for clues as they pack up the frames of the stolen paintings outside the Paris Museum of Modern Art, following the report of five paintings having been stolen, Thursday May 20, 2010. Police and prosecutors say a lone thief has stolen five paintings worth a total of Euros 500 million (\$613 million), including works by Picasso and Matisse and Modigliani.

Associated Press

person could have pulled off was not authorized to be the theft alone, even if only one person was caught on camera.

Red-and-white surrounded the museum, and paper signs on the museum doors said it was closed for technical reasons.

On a cordoned-off balcony behind the museum, police in blue gloves and face masks examined the broken window and empty frames. The paintings appeared to have been carefully removed from the disassembled frames, not sliced out. A security guard at the museum said the paintings were discovered missing by a night watchman just before 7 a.m. (0500 GMT, 1 a.m. Thursday EDT). The guard publicly named because of museum policy.

Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoe said in a statement that he was "saddened and shocked by this theft, which is an intolerable attack on Paris' universal cultural heritage."

The director of the neighboring modern art museum Palais de Tokyo, Pierre Cornette de Saint-Cyr, called the thief or thieves "fools."

"You cannot do anything with these paintings. All countries in the world are aware, and no collector is stupid enough to buy a painting that, one, he can't show to other collectors, and two, risks sending him to prison," he said on LCI television.

Friday, May 21, 2010 PEOPLE & ARTS



FILE - In this May 17, 2010 file photo, Lindsay Lohan arrives for an event during the 63rd international film festival, in Cannes, France. A judge on Thursday, May 20, 2010 issued a warrant for Lohan's arrest after the actress missed a mandatory hearing. Bail was set at \$100,000.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, file)

By SANDY COHEN, **AP Entertainment Writer**

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. - A judge issued a warrant Thursday for Lindsay Lohan's arrest after the actress missed a mandatory hearing, and authorities say she could be arrested at the airport when she returns from the Cannes Film Festival. Bail was set at \$100,000.

Lohan didn't seem too worried Thursday morning.

23-year-old actress partying on a yacht in the French Riviera until the wee hours, says celebrity photographer Phil Ramey, who posted the photos on his website

Lohan was due in court for a progress report on her probation stemming from two arrests in 2007. Her attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley, said Lohan's passport was stolen while in Cannes and she was unable to return to Los Angeles in time for Thursday's hearing.

"She did, in fact, have airline tickets," Holley told the judge. "From our standpoint, there is a valid reason for her not being here today."

Holley said Lohan would be back in the United States by Friday evening. Superior Court Judge Marsha Revel wasn't satisfied, saying the star has a history of missing scheduled appointments.

"If she wanted to be here, it looks to the court that she could have been here," Revel

The judge revoked Lohan's probation, issued the arrest warrant and imposed several conditions should Lohan make bail. She will be prohibited from drinking any alcohol, required to wear an alcohol-monitoring bracelet and submit to random weekly drug testing.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said outside the courthouse Thursday that Lohan could be arrested upon her return from France.

"As soon as the person is recognized by law enforcement, that individual is subject to immediate arrest," he said.

Revelsaida formal hearing will be held to determine whether Lohan is in compliance with the court's conditions.

No new court dates have been set in the matter, said Jane Robison, spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County district attorney's office.

Deputy District Attorney Danette Meyers said she would like to see proof that Lohan had purchased an airline ticket that would have gotten her back to Los Angeles in time for the hearing, as her attorney claimed.

"If she doesn't have a ticket, she's snubbing her nose at the court," Meyers said.

Lohan has been probation since August 2007 after pleading guilty to misdemeanor drug charges and no contest to three driving charges.

The plea came after a pair of high-profile arrests earlier that year.

Despite spending 84 minutes in jail and performing mandatory service at the county morgue, Lohan has struggled repeatedly with the terms of her sentence. In October, a judge extended her probation for another year but a prosecutor warned the actress she faced jail time if she violated her probation.

The extension was the third time Lohan escaped punishment after her alcoholeducation program notified the court the actress had violated its rules. Two of the instances were described as misunderstandings; the third was chalked up to a busy work schedule.

In February, Revel said Lohan was making "good progress" toward completing her probation. Court records do not indicate that Lohan has ever failed a drug or alcohol

In a video posted online on the celebrity website Hollywood. TV Monday, Lohan says she's "been in compliance more than ever" with the terms of her probation and could complete the required alcoholeducation classes in "about two and a half weeks."

Speaking to the media after the hearing, Holley said that Lohan has completed 10 of the 13 required alcohol-education classes. She said the actress went to Cannes to work on a movie, adding that, "It's her iob."



FILE - In this April 2, 2010 file photo, recording artists Nas, left and Damian Marley pose for a photograph in New York.

(AP Photo/Peter Morgan, file)

4ruba 10DAY

Marley helps Nas get out of comfort zone on new CD

By MESFIN FEKADU.

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK - Nas and Damian Marley had one goal in mind when they announced their collaborative album two years ago

So they stopped work on their own solo projects, and built a chart to assess the progress of their work while discussing topics like poverty, ancestry and leadership.

"It just meant so much to me," Nas said of the CD.

The result is "Distant Relatives," released this week. It's a socially conscious, African-themed record that was produced entirely by Damian and Stephen Marley. Nas, 36, said working on an album without his usual suspects got him out of his comfort zone. "To change it up so kind of drastically from when you talk about hip-hop producers who only do hip-hop, and then go to work with D, it's like a whole new experience and I was just excited for the challenge."

Marley, 31, said the process taught him "how to do production for an artist other than myself." Nas, who's released nine of his own CDs, said he trusted Marley's vision for the project.

"I'd be done with my work for the day and then come back the next day and then hear something else added and be like, 'Wow, that's perfect right there," he recalled.

The performers hope the disc — which features Lil Wayne, Joss Stone and Somali-born rapper K'naan — will unite cultures and inform listeners of their African roots.

"We're dealing with a family issue with this album ... and nobody's excluded when we say 'Distant Relatives.' We're talking about everybody — white, black, Asian, Indian, whatever you are, you're our family with this one," Nas said.

"If you can accept the truth, once and for all, that can help to kind of cure you of your sickness, you know, with your racism and your corrupt politics, and your greed. You think about people for a change, and you think of those people as your family. And it's a good time right now to talk about that," he continued.

Marley and Nas, who will begin an international tour this month to support "Distant Relatives," are also interested in creating a sophomore album as a duo.

Nas, who debuted in 1994 and is known as one of hip-hop's top lyricists, says he's sometimes unsure about his future in music. "When we think that we're just starting to get a name in the

game, they're artists that have been around a lot longer than us who are in their 60s and 70s, who have huge tours and do great humanitarian work. I look at them and (ask), 'What will I do?'" he wondered.

"I remember thinking, 'Oh man, I won't be rapping forever.' But the reality of it is ..."

Marley interjects with a laugh and said: "You just might be." Added Nas: "There's a good chance."



FEES, TAXES AND CDW NOT INCLUDED

BUSINESS A11 Friday, May 21, 2010 Aruba 1ODAY



Specialist Dwayne V. Branker, right, with Barclays Capital, works from the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, May 20, 2010, in New York.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

By TIM PARADIS and STEVENSON JACOBS, **AP Business Writers**

NEW YORK -Stocks plunged again Thursday as more investors woke up to the possibility that economic problems such as Europe's debt crisis might spread around the world and stop the growing recovery in the U.S.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 376 points, its biggest one-day point drop since February 2009, and all the major indexes were down well over 3 percent. Meanwhile, interest rates fell sharply in the Treasury market as investors once again sought the safety of U.S. government debt.

With Thursday's drop, the Standard & Poor's 500 index, considered the best indicator of the stock market's performance, is down almost 12 percent from its 2010 high close of 1,217.28, reached April 23. That means the market is officially in what's called a correction, a drop of 10 percent or more from a recent high. This is the first correction since stock indexes hit 12-year lows in March last year. The fact it has occurred in just 19 trading days shows how anxious traders are right

Analysts said there was no big event to set off Thursday's selling. More investors seemed to be grasping the possibility that the U.S. recovery could be in jeopardy. And many were wondering whether the stock market's big rebound since March 2009 may not have been entirely justified.

"The economic recovery story has started to look like a mirage and the new reality is a return to credit crunch conditions" like those seen during the financial crisis, said Tom Samuels, manager of the Palantir Fund in Houston. "If that's correct, stock prices are well ahead of economic reality."

Investors are concerned that the debt problems in European nations like Greece and Portugal will spill over to other countries, cause a cascade of massive losses for big banks and in turn halt the economic recovery in countries beyond Europe, including the U.S. They're also worried that China might take steps that will limit its economic growth, which would also affect the U.S. recovery. Analysts said the market is vulnerable to rumors about any of the major economies right now.

sell stocks and the euro, the currency shared by 16 European nations, Yardeni said.

The euro, which has become a key indicator of confidence in Europe's economy, managed to rise to \$1.2496 in late afternoon trading, a day after hitting \$1.2146, a four-year of these tragic stories were one person falls through the ice, then everyone else rushes in to help and ends up drowning," he added.

The market's slide over the past four weeks on worries about the global economy has been a painful reminder of the turbulent days during

ts advance didn't the 2008 financial crisis. On April 26, the Dow closed at its highest point since the market hit bottom on March 9, 2009. Since then, it has fallen nearly 1,000 points. It has fallen by at least 100 points in nine of the 18 trading days since its peak. According to preliminary calculations, the Dow fell 376.36, or 3.6 percent, to 10,068.01.

> The S&P 500 fell 43.46, or 3.9 percent, to 1,071.59. The Nasdaq composite index fell 94.36, or 4.1 percent, to 2,204.01.

At the New York Stock Exchange, only 153 stocks rose compared with 2,994 that fell. Volume came to a heavy 2.1 billion shares.

Fading of inflation helps buyers and borrowers

By JEANNINE AVERSA,

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON – It's a good time to buy a car or refinance a mortgage, thanks to super-low inflation and interest rates.

Invest in a savings account? Forget it.

Consumer inflation has all but disappeared, the government reported Wednesday. The Federal Reserve may now be emboldened to keep interest rates at record lows well into next year — and possibly into 2012.

As a result, banks' prime lending rate will stay at its lowest point in decades. That figure is used to peg rates on credit cards, home equity loans, some adjustable-rate mortgages and other consumer loans. Rates on fixed-rate mortgages remain low, too, thanks to a growing belief that the Fed will further delay any rate hike.

So what do persistent low inflation and recordlow rates mean for consumers?

- The time is right to buy a car. New-car prices were flat in April. And they've fallen 1 percent over the past 12 months. Big banks are offering super-low rates in the 3 percent to 4 percent range, says Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com. Normally, such rates are available only to companies, not individuals, McBride says.
- For homeowners who qualify, it's a good time to refinance. The average rate on a 30-year fixed rate mortgage dipped this week to the lowest rate of the year — 4.84 percent, down from 4.93 percent a week earlier. Homeowners who took out adjustable-rate loans at 4.5 percent in 2005 are now seeing their rates fall to 3 percent to 3.25 percent, McBride says. As a result, they

have extra cash to spend.

- People planning to drive to a vacation getaway won't pay as much. Gasoline prices fell sharply in April — 2.4 percent. Analysts expect further declines this summer because crude oil prices have fallen nearly 20 percent since April.
- · Shoppers who want to update their summer wardrobes, and those hankering for cakes and cookies, are in luck. Prices for clothing and baked goods dropped in April and are down sharply over the past year. Soaring prices for cotton and other fibers make it likely that clothing prices will rise in the next year.

Yet for savers, the prospect of persistent recordlow rates is a downer. It means no relief from puny returns any time soon. The average yield on a one-year certificate of deposit has sunk to 0.7 percent, according to Bankrate.com. That's the lowest since Bankrate starting tracking the figure in 1983. Rates hovered as high as 5.5 percent around 2000, according to Bankrate.

Unlike everyone else, savers won't benefit until the Fed starts boosting interest rates. Yet prospects for the Fed to start pushing up rates in the fourth quarter of the year seem to be fading. More economists now think an increase won't happen until next year at the earliest.

What's keeping inflation so low that the Fed can hold rates down without fear of igniting prices? Lots of slack in the economy: Factories and other businesses are operating well below full throttle. Workers are getting meager raises, or none at all. And companies are wary of jacking up prices because many consumers aren't spending freely - and they have no plans to.

SPURIS DE TROIDAS

Armstrong denies new doping accusations

TIM REVNOLDS

AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Disgraced U.S. cyclist Floyd Landis revealed new cheating allegations in a series of messages to sponsors and officials, alleging that former teammate Lance Armstrong not only joined him in doping but taught others how to beat the system and paid an official to keep a failed test quiet.

Landis admitted for the first time what had long been suspected — that he was guilty of doping for several years before being stripped of his 2006 Tour de France title.

His fresh accusations, contained in e-mails sent last month, prompted Armstrong to hold an impromptu press conference on Thursday before he began the fifth stage of the Tour of California in Visalia. "If you said, 'Give me one word to sum this all up,' credibility," the seven-time Tour de France winner said. "Floyd lost his credibility a long time ago.

"We have nothing to hide. We have nothing to run from," said Armstrong, who later quit the race after crashing just outside of Visalia, California. Team spokesman Philippe Maertens told The Associated Press that Armstrong got stitches in the left elbow and under the left eye.

Though Landis lost his title, he denied cheating until now, and his recent e-mails detail his blood doping.

"I want to clear my conscience," Landis told ESPN.com. "I don't want to be part of the problem any more."

He claims that Armstrong and longtime coach Johan Bruyneel paid an International Cycling Union official to cover-up a test in 2002 after Armstrong purportedly tested positive for the blood-boosting drug EPO. The UCI, however, denied changing or concealing a positive test result.



This July 22, 2004, fie photo shows overall leader Lance Armstrong, right, straining in the ascent of the La Croix Fry pass, as teammate Floyd Landis pours water over his neck, during the 17th stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Bourg-d'Oisans and Le Grand Bornand, French Alps. Disgraced American cyclist Floyd Landis has admitted to systematic use of performance-enhancing drugs and accused seven-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong of involvement in doping, the Wall Street Journal reported Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Associated Press

In an e-mail Landis sent to USA Cycling chief Steve Johnson, he said Armstrong's positive EPO test was in 2002, around the time he won the Tour de Suisse. Armstrong won the Tour de Suisse in 2001 and did not compete in 2002.

Continued on Page 15

Armstrong crashes, gets stitches

VISALIA, Calif. – Lance Armstrong crashed during the Tour of California on Thursday, sending him to the hospital for precautionary X-rays on the day he was accused of doping by former teammate Floyd Landis.

The cyclists were on a twolane road outside Visalia a few miles into the race when a rider in the main group skidded on some gravel and fell, causing others, including Armstrong, to crash. Armstrong resumed riding but had to quit the race because of his injuries.

"I tried to give it a go but my eye was swollen so I couldn't see properly and the pain in the elbow prevented me from holding the bars for the remainder of the stage," Armstrong said. "It was a relief to learn there were no breaks. I will take a few days to recover and be on the bike as soon as possible."

Thomas retires as a Dolphin

By TIM REYNOLDS AP Sports Writer

MIAMI – Zach Thomas got the idea Wednesday, thinking maybe he could sign a oneday contract with the Miami Dolphins and retire as part of the franchise.

His agent asked the Dolphins. Thomas got his answer within minutes.

So on Thursday, Thomas signed a one-day contract, officially worth \$1 — but in actuality, worth so much more to Thomas, who long lamented not getting the chance to say a proper farewell when the Dolphins released him two years ago.

With that, he finally said goodbye.

"I'm a little bit nervous right now," Thomas said at the team's training facility in Davie, Fla. "More nervous than any game I ever played." Only a fifth-round draft pick out of Texas Tech in 1996, Thomas became a star during 12 seasons with the Dolphins. He was one of the faces of the franchise along with the likes of Dan Marino and Jason Taylor, who became Thomas' brother-in-law.

Thomas had 1,038 tackles, 19 1/2 sacks and 17 interceptions in 168 games for the Dolphins, and he was chosen for seven Pro Bowls.

"As the team's owner, I want to welcome him back to the Dolphins and I certainly hope he continues to make his presence felt," Stephen Ross said. "He's a great role model for our players and we're proud of everything he has done throughout his career to represent this franchise. He gave his heart and soul to this

team, and we all were better for it."

He spent the 2008 season with the Dallas Cowboys, then was in camp last year with Kansas City, which released Thomas before the season after unspecified injury issues. He didn't play again.

"The game has been good to me," said Thomas, who was joined by several friends and family, agents Drew and Jason Rosenhaus, his wife Maritza and their 4 1/2-month-old son.

Like his final season, Thomas' stay with the Dolphins also ended after an injury.

One of the NFL's most durable players for more than a decade, Thomas appeared in just five Miami games in 2007 after his car was rear-ended, creating a whiplash injury that caused him to suffer migraines



Zach Thomas talks to the media during a news conference announcing his retirement from professional football on Thursday, May 20, 2010, at the Miami Dolphins compound in Davie, Fla. Thomas signed a one-day, one-dollar contract with the Dolphins, so that he could retire as a member of the team.

Associated Press

for weeks.

He also dealt with numerous concussions in his career, pledging earlier this year that, upon his death, he'll donate his brain to the Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy at Boston University School of Medicine. Thomas has often said he doesn't know how many concussions he had in his career.

On Thursday, he said he felt

"I think it's great that Zach is retiring as a Miami Dolphin," Marino said in a statement. "As someone who spent my entire career with the Dolphins, I can appreciate what it means to Zach to finish his career as part of the team that meant so much to him during his playing days."

SPORTS A13 Friday, May 21, 2010

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NBA Playoff

Lakers hold off Suns, take two-game West finals lead

GREG BEACHAM AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers are halfway to another NBA finals series after a 124-112 victory over the Phoenix Suns on Wednesday gave them a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference finals. Pau Gasol scored 14 of his 29 points in the fourth quarter, and Kobe Bryant had 21 points and 13 assists as the Lakers roared away in the final minutes.

Ron Artest scored 18 points for Los Angeles, which won its eighth straight playoff game and moved within striking distance of a tantalizing NBA finals showdown with the Boston Celtics, who lead Orlando 2-0 in the East. For the second straight game, the chants rained down from the Staples Center crowd in the final minutes: "We want Boston!"

The Lakers remained unbeaten at home in the postseason despite a muchimproved effort from the Suns, who lost the opener by 21 points. Phoenix tied it at 90-90 heading to the final period, but Gasol and Bryant flawlessly led the Lakers to another high-scoring victory.

"We've been able to play both styles of basketball," Los Angeles coach Phil Jackson said. "We like to control the pace, but we feel comfortable if it's an accelerated pace."

The Lakers certainly seem to be accelerating the Suns' exit from the playoffs after hitting better than 57 percent of their shots and scoring a jaw-dropping 252 points in the first two games.

Game 3 is Sunday in Phoenix. But unless the Suns figure out a way to stop Los Angeles' versatile, poised offense, the Lakers and Celtics could be just a few days away from another chapter in their storied rivalry. "We can't slow them Phoenix coach down," Alvin Gentry said. "We played well offensively, but every time we tried to make an adjustment to slow them down offensively, they would go somewhere else. There's a good reason they're the world champs, but we'll keep plugging away, keep trying.' Los Angeles has lost only one best-of-seven playoff series in franchise history after taking a 2-0 lead, winning the other 41. The 15-time champions haven't won eight straight games in the same postseason since their famous one-loss run through the 2001 playoffs. The crowd booed Amare Stoudemire, who Tuesday belittled Lamar Odom's 19-point, rebound performance in the opener as "a lucky game." Stoudemire appeared determined to back up his words with aggression, finishing with 18 points and six rebounds while Odom had 17 points and 11 boards in another superb game off the bench. Grant Hill scored 14 of his

23 points in the third quarter

Los Angeles Lakers forward Pau Gasol, right, of Spain puts up a shot as Phoenix Suns forward Amare Stoudemire defends during the second half of Game 2 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals, Wednesday, May 19, 2010, in Los Angeles. The Lakers won

Associated Press

while Phoenix erased a 14-point deficit, playing with more efficiency and aggression than in Game 1. But the Lakers went back ahead by 11 midway through the fourth with a 9-0 run. Bryant set up Gasol for two tough baskets in the final minutes, with Gasol scoring with a flourish and drawing a foul each time. After scoring 40 points in 35 minutes in the series opener, Bryant embraced being a creator, repeatedly finding his teammates out of double teams while setting a career high for assists in a playoff game. Jason Richardson scored 27 points for Phoenix, and Steve Nash had 11 points and 15 assists. Jared Dudley 3-pointers. □







Aruba TODAY

Rays beat Yankees in top team showdown

baseball's top two teams.



Tampa Bay Rays' Evan Longoria follows through on his fourthinning RBI-single in the Rays' 10-6 victory over the New York Yankees in a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Wednesday, May 19, 2010.

Associated Press

Bartlett hit a leadoff homer for Tampa Bay to put the Rays

NEW YORK (AP) — Jason on course for a 10-6 victory over the New York Yankees

Evan Longoria had three hits and two RBIs, sending the AL East leaders to their fifth straight win. Tampa Bay stole six bases against New York starting pitcher A.J. Burnett (4-2) — four in a four-run fourth inning — and improved to 29-11, the best record for a big league team after 40 games since Boston had the same mark in 2002.

Trailing 10-2 going into the ninth, New York scored four times with two outs. Joaquin Benoit struck out Juan Miranda with two on for his first save since 2008.

Handed a six-run lead by the fourth inning, Tampa Bay rookie Wade Davis (4-3) held the Yankees in check.

Alex Rodriguez hit his 589th home run and Robinson Cano had four hits for New York.

Red Sox 3, Twins 2

In Boston, Clay Buchholz gave Boston's struggling rotation a lift, steering the Red Sox over Minnesota.

Buchholz (5-3) allowed two runs in eight-plus innings.

Since his previous start, four other Boston starters had allowed at least four runs in their outings.

Buchholz struck out seven, walked one and faced only four batters over the minimum.

The Red Sox went ahead in the fourth on David Ortiz's two-run homer, which stood after a video review.

Boston made it 3-1 in the sixth after Minnesota pitcher Scott Baker (4-4) had retired the first two batters.

In Oakland, Justin Verlander carried a shutout bid into the eighth inning, leading Detroit over Oakland.

Verlander (5-2) struck out five and walked one while winning his fourth straight start. He retired 14 of 15 batters during one stretch.

Casper Wells, a late addition to Detroit's lineup when right fielder Magglio Ordonez withdrew, had a two-run double. He singled in the third for his first major league hit. Oakland's Dallas Braden (4-4), making his first home

appearance since throwing a

like symptoms after giving up a leadoff home run to Brandon Inge in the seventh followed by a single to Gerald Laird.

The Tigers pulled within a game of first-place Minnesota in the AL Central.

In Seattle, Brett Cecil pitched into the seventh inning as Toronto inflicted Seattle's fifth straight loss.

Cecil (3-2), who started the season in the minors, allowed two runs in 6 1-3 innings.

In the bottom of the ninth, Blue Jays closer Kevin Gregg retired Ken Griffey Jr. and Ichiro Suzuki before a walk and a single put two runners on base. Mike Sweeney flied out to left center to end it, giving Gregg his AL-leading 12th save in 13 chances.

Milton Bradley returned to the Mariners after psychological troubles and had his fourth two-hit game of the season.

Seattle starter Doug Fister (3-2) allowed three runs in the first four innings — as many as he had allowed in any of seven previous starts this season.

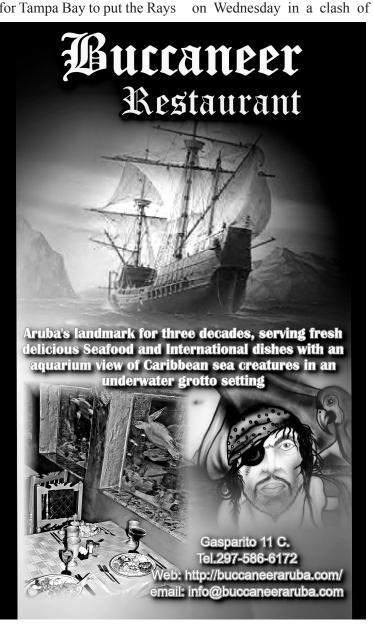
In Arlington, Nelson Cruz hit a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the ninth to finally give Texas victory over Baltimore.

Michael Young led off the ninth against Cla Meredith (0-1) with his third hit. Two walks loaded the bases before Cruz's flyball to center off Jason Berken drove in the

Earlier, Texas' Josh Hamilton led off the fourth with a shot that clearly went over the fence in left and ricocheted back into play, but the second base umpire signaled that the ball was still in play and Hamilton stopped with a double.

Rangers manager Ron Washington questioned the call but the umpires didn't consult video replays and the double stood.

In other AL games it was Kansas City 8, Cleveland 4; Tampa Bay 10, N.Y. Yankees 6; Boston 3, Minnesota 2; Texas 4, Baltimore 3; L.A. Angels 3, Chicago White Sox 2; Detroit 5, Oakland 1; and Toronto 3, Seattle 2.





Aruba TODAY

NL Roundup

Padres end Dodgers nine-game win streak

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Adrian Gonzalez homered and had a career-high six RBIs as the San Diego Padres beat Los Angeles 10-5 in the National Wednesday, on putting an emphatic end to the Dodgers' nine-game winning streak.

Will Venable had four hits including a triple and two doubles for the NL Westleading Padres.

San Didgo starter Jon Garland (5-2) allowed four runs in five innings. The right-hander, 5-0 with a 1.67 ERA over his last six starts, made six starts for the Dodgers last September.

Los Angeles' Ramon Ortiz (1-2), who was making his second start out of the bullpen because of injuries, took the

Marlins 5, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Hanley Ramirez returned to the Marlins' lineup with three hits as Florida downed St. Louis.

Ramirez was yanked from Monday's game for loafing and benched Tuesday after criticizing the manager and teammates. He apologized individually to his teammates before the game.

Ramirez was booed before three of his first four at-bats. The reigning NL batting champion answered with three singles, two of them infield hits, and drove in a run.

Anibal Sanchez threw seven

Uggla homered for the second straight game for Florida, which has won six of seven. Cubs 4, Phillies 1

Philadelphia, Gorzelanny threw 62-3 shutout innings to steer Chicago past Philadelphia.

Gorzelanny kept the Phillies off-balance until he was struck by Carlos Ruiz's line drive in the seventh inning. He left and had x-rays which revealed no break to his left ring finger.

Starlin Castro and Jeff Baker had RBI singles to lead the Cubs to their fourth straight

Philadelphia veteran Jamie Moyer (5-3) gave up two runs in seven innings.

Braves 5, Reds 4

In Atlanta, Jason Heyward hit an RBI double with two outs in the ninth inning, giving Atlanta an answer to another Cincinnati comeback.

Heyward doubled twice and also hit his first major league triple. The rookie helped the Braves end Cincinnati's fourgame winning streak.

Atlanta blew a four-run lead in the final two innings before recovering. Martin Prado singled with two outs in the ninth off Nick Masset (3-2) and scored on Heyward's double to right field.

The Reds, who lead the NL with 13 comeback wins, scored three runs in the eighth

impressive innings and Dan and tied it in the ninth on Chris Heisey's leadoff homer against closer Billy Wagner (4-0).

Nationals 5, Mets 3 In Washington, Angel Pagan

the same game.

hit an inside-the-park home run and started a triple play but that wasn't enough for New York in a loss to Washington. It was the first time in 55 years that an individual, and a team had performed both feats in

Adam Kennedy's sacrifice fly broke a 2-2 tie in the seventh and put the Nationals ahead to stay.

Washington rookie Drew Storen (1-0) got two outs for his first major league victory. Matt Capps closed for his major league-leading 15th

New York's Raul Valdes (1-1) took the loss.

Diamondbacks 13, Giants 1 In Phoenix, Adam LaRoche hit two of Arizona's six home runs in a rout of San Francisco.

Kelly Johnson hit his NLhigh 12th homer while Justin Upton, Stephen Drew, and Chris Snyder also went deep for the Diamondbacks, who matched the franchise record for homers in a game.

LaRoche finished with four RBIs and Drew and Snyder each had three for Arizona, which ended a six-game home losing streak.

Diamondbacks starter Ian Kennedy (3-2) struck out a



New York Mets' Angel Pagan (16) slides for home to score on an inside-the-park home run as Washington Nationals catcher Ivan Rodriguez, left, waits for the throw during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, May 19, 2010, in Washington.

Associated Press

one run in eight innings.

San Francisco starter Todd Wellemeyer (2-4) remained winless on the road after giving up five runs in five innings.

Pirates 6, Brewers 4

In Pittsburgh, Ryan Doumit drove in the go-ahead run as Pittsburgh ran Milwaukee's losing skid to nine.

Steve Pearce added his third hit during Pittsburgh's threerun seventh inning.

The Brewers are stuck in their longest slide since losing 10 straight late in the 2006 season.

The NL Central rivals played in Pittsburgh for the first time since Milwaukee's 20-0 win

career-high nine and allowed last month — the worst loss in Pirates history.

> Pittsburgh's Javier Lopez (1-0) retired the only two batters he faced for the victory.

> Milwaukee's Randy Wolf (3-4) took the loss.

Astros 7, Rockies 3

In Houston, Cory Sullivan hit a go-ahead single in the eighth inning as Houston snapped a run of five losses and beat Colorado.

Sullivan broke a 3-3 tie with a two-outsingleoffEsmilRogers (0-2). Tommy Manzella then reached on Colorado's second error, Michael Bourn was intentionally walked to load the bases and Jeff Keppinger hit a three-run double to leftfield.

DOPING ACCUSATIONS Continued from Page 12

"We're a little confused, maybe just as confused as you guys," Armstrong said, with Bruyneel by his side. "The timeline is off, year by year."

Landis also implicated other cyclists, including longtime Armstrong confidant George Hincapie and Olympic medalist Levi Leipheimer — both Americans and acknowledged using human growth hormone starting in 2003. The Wall Street Journal reported another e-mail from Landis also linked another top American racer, Dave Zabriskie, to doping.

"Look forward to much more detail as soon as you can demonstrate that you can be trusted to do the right thing," Landis wrote in the e-mail to Johnson.

Landis said he was asked at one point to stay in an apartment where Armstrong was living and check the temperature in a

for future transfusions. "Mr. Armstrong was planning on being gone for a few weeks to train he asked me to stay in his place and make sure the electricity didn't turn off or something go wrong with the refrigerator," Landis wrote.

Hincapie said he was "really disappointed" by the allegations. Jim Ochowicz, a former top USA Cycling official — who was also implicated by Landis — defended himself and Hincapie. "These allegations are not true, absolutely unfounded and unproven," said Ochowicz, now the president of BMC Racing, Hincapie's current team. "This is disappointing to anyone who works in the sport or is a fan of the sport." Johnson said USA Cycling would not comment about Landis' series of e-mails, citing its policy on not discussing "doping allegations, investigations or any aspect of an adjudication process."

refrigerator where blood was being stored The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency also declined comment for similar reasons, and Landis did not respond to messages left by The AP.

> More accusations from Landis could be coming, however. In his e-mail to Johnson, Landis indicated he has several diaries detailing other experiences.

> "I've always known Floyd as an angry person ... somebody who's basically angry with the world," Bruyneel said. "To me it sounds like he just wants to drag down people who are still there and enjoying this."

> Until about 2005, Armstrong worked extensively with Michele Ferrari, an Italian doctor who was linked to numerous doping issues, but was cleared by an appeals court in 2006. Landis claimed Ferrari extracted "half a liter of blood" from him in 2002, so he could have it transfused during the Tour de France.



Cyclist Lance Armstrong is tended to after crashing during the fifth stage of the Tour of California cycling race in the outskirts of Visalia, Calif., Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Associated Press

SPURIS ENDING

Nadal ready to challenge for 5th French Open title

HOWARD FENDRICH AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Rafael Nadal sauntered through a hotel lobby in the center of town on Thursday, a bounce in his step and a black watch worth more than \$400,000 strapped to his left wrist.

The gait is noteworthy because Nadal's much-scrutinized knees are doing quite well — they "are in a very good moment," is the way he put it. The timepiece, crafted by luxury watchmaker Richard Mille with Nadal's input, is noteworthy because he plans to wear it while playing at the French Open. Paris in the springtime usually is Nadal's time to shine: He won the title each of the first four years he entered the clay-court Grand Slam tournament. In 2009, though, a busy schedule and battered knees took their toll on the Spaniard, who lost at Roland Garros for the only time in 32 matches there.

Now Nadal aims to start a new winning streak at the French Open, which begins on Sunday. "I wanted a lot to be here, and I (am). It's a personal satisfaction for me," Nadal said on Thursday, shortly after flying to France from his home in Spain, "because I worked a lot to win another time."



Spanish tennis champion Rafael Nadal ponders a question during a press conference he gave in Paris, Thursday May 20, 2010 in connection with one of his sponsors with which he signed a contract recently. Nadal will take part in the upcoming Roland Garros tournament.

All signs indicate that he is ready to do just that. After going 11 months without a tournament title, he's won three in a row. After dealing with leg and abdominal injuries last year, when Nadal did not defend his Wimbledon title, he is healthy.

Arriving at Roland Garros a year ago, Nadal could not flex his knees and was in a lot of pain, Toni Nadal, Rafael's uncle and coach, said on Thursday.

And now?

"At the moment, good enough," Toni Nadal said.
That appears to be something

of an understatement. His nephew is 15-0 on clay in 2010, becoming the first man to win at Monte Carlo, Rome and Madrid in the same season—a trio of Masters titles Nadal called "more than a dream."

That run was capped by a victory over Roger Federer in last weekend's Madrid final, their first matchup in a year. That is one reason why Nadal — rather than defending

Associated Press champion and top-ranked Federer — is viewed as the man to beat at the French Open.

Another: Nadal has a 14-7 record against Federer, 10-2 on clay. And yet one more: Federer has won only six of nine matches on the slow, red dirt this year. Then again, as Federer explained: "Rafa's and my clay-court seasons are decided at the French Open, and not before. It's unfortunately — or fortunately — like that."

While third-ranked Novak Djokovic or fourth-ranked Andy Murray might argue differently, Federer and Nadal would seem to be on course for yet another No. 1 vs. No. 2 final at Roland Garros; Nadal beat Federer in the 2006, 2007 and 2008 finales. It is significant that Juan Martin del Potro, the lanky Argentine with the massive forehand who upset Federer in last year's U.S. Open final a few months after nearly knocking him off in the French Open semifinals, is sidelined after wrist surgery.

The women's tournament, in contrast, appears to be more wide open, with nine players having shared the WTA's most recent nine redclay tournament titles. Sisters Serena and Venus Williams are back at Nos. 1-2 in the rankings for the first time since May 2003; Justine Henin returns to the site of four of her seven Grand Slam titles after coming out of a 1½-year retirement; defending champion Svetlana Kuznetsova is in a serious slump. Federer long ago proved himself skilled on all of tennis' surfaces, and his breakthrough title at the 2009 French Open made him only the sixth man with a career Grand Slam.



Italy's Filippo Pozzato celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the twelfth stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race from Citta' Sant' Angelo and Porto Recanati, Italy, Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Associated Press

Pozzato wins 12th stage of the Giro

PORTO RECANTI, Italy (AP) — Filippo Pozzato became the first Italian to win a stage at the 2010 Giro d'Italia after taking the 12th stage in a sprint finish Thursday.

The Italian national champion squeezed across the line ahead of French duo Thomas Voeckler in second and Jerome Pineau in third.

"I knew I had to attack and I trusted my legs," Pozzato said. "It is a dream to be the first Italian to win a stage at the Giro this year and of course I'm happy. I hope I'm not the only Italian to win a stage and I expect my fellow Italians to start winning stages now."

Pozzato finished the 206-kilometers (128-mile) stage from Citta Sant'Angelo to Porto Recanati in 5 hours, 15 minutes, 50 seconds.

Rick Flens made the first attack, breaking from the lead pack after 9 kilometers. Yuriy Krivstov and Olivier Kaisen then joined him at the front after 18K and the three kept their distance from the chasing group until being caught in the closing stages.

Michele Scarponi led Alexandre Vinokourov over the final kilometer, before Pozzato broke out of a group of six riders to take the win. Richie Porte of Australia kept the pink jersey as overall leader, remaining 1 minute, 42 seconds ahead of David Arroyo Duran in second.

"It was great today, it was a beautiful day," Porte said. "Riding in the pink jersey is tough full stop, but I have a fantastic team and we rode well today."

On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Friday, May 21, 2010

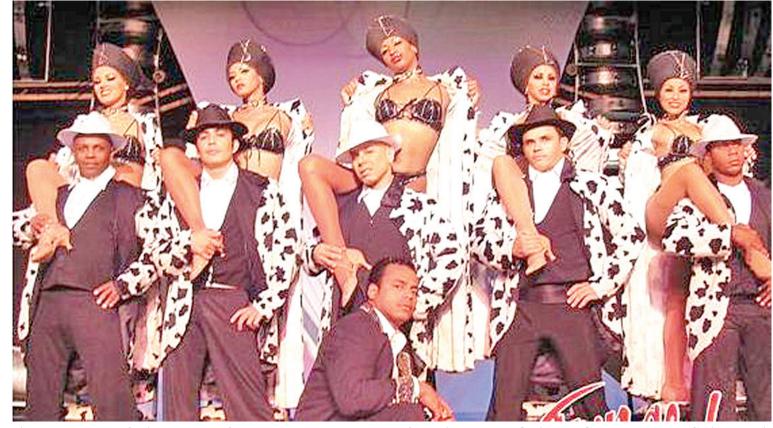
The most unique dinner show on the island

Occidental Grand launches CirCaribe show

PALM BEACH -The management of Occidental Grand Casino announced this week the launch of their new dinner show CirCaribe to be open to the public on Saturday Night in the Ballroom of the resort. Don't miss this gastronomic spectacular celebration of tantalizing dishes, professional dancing, amazing great music, acrobats and thrilling comedy, choreographed by the popular Eduardo Paraga from Venezuela.

Theresort's General Manager Jesus Cardoso is absolutely thrilled with CirCaribe, the newest show just recently added to the repertoire of nightly dinner shows at the Occidental Grand.

Continued on Next Page



Pictured are the professional dancers from around the world who perform nightly at the Occidental Grand Resort and Casino. Don't miss their newest addition to their nightly dinner entertainment "CirCaribe" on Saturday night at 7:30 PM.

Letichevers enjoy celebrating on Aruba

Edward celebrates Birthday at South Beach Lounge



PALM BEACH - Edward Letichever and his wife Marina, who visit Aruba often from Canada, celebrated Edwards birthday on Wednesday night at the South Beach Lounge. Also enjoying the great evening were Inna and Igor Zaborsky, their children Alla and Larry Zaborsky together with local friends Eric de Cuba, Wayne and Jane Johnson and Ted and Desiree Johnson.

The Litichever's are originally from Russia and consider Aruba their home-away-from-home and spend just as much time enjoying Aruba as they do back in Canada.

Continued on Page 8



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Occidental Grand launches CirCaribe show





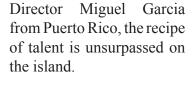




Continued from Page B1

This show is not only full of great talent and entertainment, it is much, much more as you are sure to laugh yourself out of your seat on Saturday night.

The Occidental Grand is also proud to announce the addition of Chrissie Nast from Canada, who is the new Fun Club Director and together with the new Executive Chef / Kitchen



Doors open on Saturday at 7:30 PM for a four course dinnerwithacomplimentary drink on the house and the show starts at 8:30 PM. Adults receive a \$20 match

play to add to the excitement for the evening.



Caribbean bound flights out of Amsterdam not too hampered by volcanic ash cloud



ORANJESTAD/The Hague— the Iceland volcano continues The volcanic ash cloud from to wreak havoc for European

air transportation, but despite everything the effects for the Caribbean bound flights are limited.

According to the World Radio Netherlands, thousands of passengers were stranded again in Schiphol, Amsterdam, which eventually had to shut down for seven hours.

However, Caribbean airlines like the Suriname company SLM was able to reroute its passengers through the Maastricht airport that because of its location in the southern tip of the Netherlands continued to be operationable Curação and Aruba-bound combined flight from KLM was delayed by a few hours, but passengers were able to board later on without any problems. KLM in fact did not have to arrange for additional flights.

It is not yet not clear whether flights from the Caribbean to Amsterdam were hampered because of the ash cloud.

The economy airline Arkefly did cancel its combined flight from Amsterdam to Curação and Aruba, but says it would not deploy any additional

flights. The company says it would work creatively to handle with the situation, for instance by combining flights to and from Mexico.

Moreover, when possible Arkefly would shuttle its passengers fromn Brussels and Eindhoven where the airports operating normally. The company in additional provided room and board for those passengers who they could not help immediately.

By Tuesday, the situation at Schiphol returned to normalcy

Analyst Randall Croes on Euro volatility

Aruba is now an expensive destination for European travelers

ORANJESTAD — Aruba increased its marketing fund in order to attract more visitors from the European particularly countries. the Euro zone. Yet, the volatility of the Euro, as a result of the Greece crisis made it a little more difficult to reach the goal of becoming a major vacation destination for Europeans. The bail out of Greece led to a devaluation of the Euro versus the dollar, and that has major consequences for Aruba as well, according to analyst Randall Croes.

only has Aruba become more expensive Europeans to travel here, Croes said that we have to be aware that European attractions are now competing with us for the US tourism market. The Euro is suddenly more affordable for many Americans, something that has not been the case for many years.

Euro increase in value as compared to the dollar, reaching a top of 50 percent. But now, the developments of recent months brought down the value with 20 percent. And even though the import of European products is now less expensive, this development will not be in the benefit of the island, Croes believes.

The reason why the Euro has lost some of its power is due to lack of trust of investors, who normally buy large sums in government bonds from European countries. However, European Union members Greece, Spain and Portugal, and eventually even England have been struggling with higher budgetary deficits in ratio to their Gross Domestic Product.

European leaders have decided to take drastic steps to prevent the collapse of the Euro, but it will take a lot of time and sacrifices Since its inception, the for the Greek economy

to recover, for instance. The recovery of Greece, and also the prevention of collapses in Spain and Portugal are essential for the entire European Union, as it will certainly affect the economies of other, stronger countries like Germany and France.

This uncertain period will continue to have an effect on the volatility of the Euro. which will require a strong and hard foundation in order to be able to rebound, Croes illustrates.

And that is not yet the case, and therefore, people can continue expect a yoyo effect for the Euro. "The value has continued to go down, because people remain nervous," explains.

Randall Croes is of the opinion that time is of essence. He thinks that it will take another three months for the markets to 'adjust' to the new situation and the dust will eventually



again stabilize, reaching a exchange factor of 1 Euro to 1.10 or 1.20 US dollars. "It won't be more than that," Croes says.

Moreover, the dollar itself continues to be under pressure because of the huge deficits in the US. But now, it seems the European

settle. By then, the Euro will situation has caught up with the US (in the bad sense of the word) financially, which means that there are trillions of dollars circulating around world seeking investments in US companies, instead of European stocks and bonds, is the opinion of Randall Croes

Looking for a loving hon



My name is Gota and I am seven weeks old.

I am looking for a nice adoptive family to take care off. I am presently living at the vet's clinic getting over some skin-thing, but my progress is good and my prognosis perfect!

Give the adoptive agency Chairperson a call at tel.: 566 9832, if you are interested in my services.

You must be a goo-goo-gaga animal lover to have me, and you must have a fenced yard.



Presented by the Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation AMMF

'The Cove' to be aired at the Arikok National Park on Saturday



ORANJESTAD—The International Day Biodiversity is this Saturday, and the Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation AMMF with support of many environmental organizations will make use of the global event to show the Oscar winning documentary, 'The Cove.'

The presentation will take place in the Visitors' Complex of the Parke Nacional Arikok, Aruba's national park, in three separate airing times, at 10:30 am, 12:30 pm, and 2:30 pm. The movie has duration of 90 minutes.

The Cove won no less than 43 international film festival

awards, including the coveted Academy Awards 'Oscar' for best documentary.

The film tells the story of the plight of Ric O'Barry, former 'Flipper' trainer who turned against the commercialization of dolphins particularly, against dolphin captivity. O'Barry contents that dolphinariums and the captivity of cetaceans contribute to suffering of these intelligent animals, but more seriously, they contribute to the slaughter of thousands of dolphins in attempts to capture them for commercial use.

for many is comparable to Al Gore's 'An Inconvenient Truth.'

trubu TODAY

The independent documentary was financed by a group of friends, who received a five million dollar support of Ocean Preservation Society, an organization set up by billionaire inventor Jim Clark. Clark's diving partner for 10 years, Louie Psihoyos, a famed photographer for others among National Geographic, was the Director for 'The Cove,' and was also awarded the 'Directors Guild Award' for his work on the documentary. OPS was founded by Jim Clark who as an avid diver noticed the rapid decline of the reefs and marine life on a global scale, and started making movies with oceanic themes to inspire the world and make everyone aware of the importance of conservation and preservation.

The showing of 'The Cove' the National Park's Visitors' Complex is free and everyone, locals and visitors alike are invited to join in the international observation of the beauty of biodiversity. AMMF will be selling shirts to raise funds for the scientific research of a doctorate candidate of the George Mason University, currently taking place in Aruban waters. For more information visit the Facebook site of AMMF. Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation.









Specialized police van delivered to Minister Dowers







Sr. Dolfi Richardson who gave the keys to the actual police officers whom are going to be using the vehicle as part of their work. It's important to have the adequate infrastructure with a good police force along side Minister Dowers, he

also said that the government infrastructure in the best is contributing to better the possible way.



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ORANJESTAD: On thurday morning Garage Cordia Aruba handed over the keys to Minister of Justice Sr. Arthur Dowers to a new police van specially designated for the Aruban Police Force. With this van Minister Dowers wants to show it's gonna have to contribute on the enhancement of services by the police force. In his turn Minister Dowers handed over the keys to supplement police





NIGHT SHOPPING UNTIL 10:30 PM

Cold Beer prices ranges from \$2. Souvenir a wide variety fo snacks. Also availabe Rums made in Aruba at a good price. Cold Wine variety Now: receive a 3% discount with any purchase over 50 Florins

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Feed Your Spirit

by definition, we are not aware of. Our unconscious exists beyond the limits of our awareness, yet we can all attest to the power of this very real Entity. Unconscious includes all the forces and impulses that drive us without our conscious knowledge.

Our unconscious is a vast, ever-transforming realm, encompassing positive and negative energetic patterns. It is made up of your subconscious ego and your superconscious spirit. Which aspect of yourself are you more in tune with throughout the day? Make a Conscious Shift toward expressing your spirit, and you will align with the forces of the Universe.

Humanity is shifting its awareness from the subconscious to the superconscious, also known as Unity Consciousness. When we live from the point of view of our Spirit, we know that all three-dimensional energy expression comes from the same Source. All people and things are separate parts of the same Whole. We're all siblings.

We are mostly unconscious creatures stuck in automatic reaction to three dimensions, so how do we become superconscious? By focusing on our selves.

We each have unconscious aspects of ourselves that Start by realizing that everything outside of you is a reflection of what is inside of you. Change your attitude about your self, and your surroundings will transform to match. If you feel yourself to be absolutely abundant, that is what the three dimensional illusion will reflect back to you. If you focus on lack in your life, your life will be lacking.

> Until now, our personal Spirit has been a part of our unconscious. In this moment, however, we are waking up and becoming aware of our Spirit Selves. We are beginning to see the illusion for the fleeting uncertainty that it is. We are recognizing an integral part of ourselves.

> When we become aware of ourselves as Spirits in a body, we empower our selves. As we bring our own spirit out of our unconscious, our awareness will grow stronger. When we focus on our Spirit, we divert our personal energy to it, and starve the automatic reactions stored in our subconscious.

> Becoming aware of the Spiritual aspect of your unconscious starves your negative automatic patterns and reactions, so you don't have to work through them. How do you become aware of your unknown?

By looking at your three dimensional life, which only reflects what is inside you. Your challenges and obstacles show you the parts of yourself that require your attention to heal.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF **MAY 20 - MAY 26**

	*matinee: saturday - sunday late show: friday & saturday						
		AT RENA	NISSANCE -	- ORANJE	STAD		
	PG NEW	SHREK FOI daily: matinee:	1:30	4:00	6:15 late show:	8:30 11:15	©
	PG New	STREET DA daily: matinee:	12:45	5:45 3:15	8:00 late show:	11:00	6
	PG-13	THE LOSER daily: matinee:	RS		9:00 late show:	11:15	
	PG-13	DEATH AT daily: matinee:	A FUNERAL 12:15	4:45 2:30	7:00 late show:	9:15 11:30	
	PG-13	NIGHTMAF daily: matinee:	2:15	5:00	7:15 late show:	9:30 11:45	
	PG-13	IRON MAN daily: matinee:	2 12:00	5:30 2:45	8:45 late show:	11:30	
	PG-13	HOT TUB T daily: matinee:	IME MACHIN	E 4:00	6:15 late show:		
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	PG NEW	SHREK FOR daily: matinee:	1:30	3D 4:00	6:15 late show:	8:30 11:00	5
	PG New	JUST WRIG daily: matinee:	1:45	4:00	6:15 late show:	8:45 11:15	
	PG-13	ROBIN HOO daily: matinee:	1:00	4:30	7:45 late show:	11:00	
	PG-13	THE BACK- daily: matinee:	UP PLAN		9:00 late show:	11:30	
	PG	daily: matinee:		4:00	6:30 late show:	9:00 11:30	
	PG	FURRY VEN daily: matinee:	12:00	4:30 2:30	6:45 late show:		
	PG-13	IRON MAN daily: matinee:	2 12:15	5:45 3:00	8:45 late show:	11:30	

Live Music & Entertainment at Casa Tua Barcelona on Friday Night



ORANJESTAD - Enjoy your Paella and Sangria together with this fantastic live show! The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed with its in- and outside seating.

Our Flamenco Show will be extended this Holiday Season with the performance of Kavey Yarzagaray. This Flamenco guitar player will perform together with Angela Croes on Friday night. This is a show that shouldn't be missed.

The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is also the new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad.

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata



Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

guarantees you'll be back for more...





Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to The best part about such a good ending is that it 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470

Adam Steinfeld live tonight!

Don't miss Magic & Comedy tonight at the Westin



STEINFELD: **'MAGIC** Theater-of-illusions show... now at the WESTIN - Aruba, see it live! 9pm nightly

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'BEST MAGIC SHOW, I've seen in ages...and I hate Magic! - Carol Butz, Belair, Maryland. 'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' - Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated card-sharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA

Steinfeld's, comedy magician, likable on-stage personality, comic interactive-wit, and amazing magic, mixed with his dreamlike theatre-of-illusions, is a sensory overload of the imagination, along

with his lovely dancers...a treat for the entire family.

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"It's obvious Adam's real passion is performing in front of a live audience, as his charisma and charm create an unforgettable show!"

Steinfeld is a 'Master of Magic', he invents many of his own Las Vegas illusions that are designed in England, fabricated in Vegas, and travels with him on tour, in a explosion of amazing fun.

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Adam Steinfeld: 'MAGIC LIVE!', from Monte Carlo, Hong Kong, Orlando, Miami Beach, Biloxi, Boston, San Juan, New York, Aruba to Vegas, it's the coolest show in town, taking up where Houdini left off." MAGIC - GRAND **ILLUSION - COMEDY**



IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show Where: Westin - Aruba, Palm beach (high-rise

Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld

ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE: AT THEATER OF ILLUSIONS box office located in Westin lobby starting at 7:30pm nightly up until showtime, or at front desk at anytime

Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$34.95 adults

Aruba TODAY

Edward celebrates Birthday at South Beach Lounge







Continued from Page B1

Congratulations and a big Pabien to Edward and his family for celebrating this special day on our dushi island Aruba.

Also pictured celebrating at South Beach Lounge were a variety of different people with lot to celebrate about. Everyone knows that South Beach Centre is the place to be for any and every celebration with a wide variety of locales to choose from including Café Rembrandt, Milano, South Beach Lounge, Café De Pijp, Hardrock Café and Busters!



The Kitchenaruba.com

Food Store - Take Out - Wood Fired Grill

Agourmet kitchen where delicious food is cooked to order for fresh take out just opened behind Certified Mega Mall under the simple name, The Kitchen Aruba.

Chef Sander van Kints who made the wood fired grill at Yemanja restaurant famous, spread his wings and opened his own kitchen where he serves just-made dishes, cooked while patrons are watching. The daily menu changes to feature his specialties all home made, from scratch.

You may buy a bottle of wine or Champagne at the food store bodega, to go with your meal.

Chef Sander who built The Kitchen himself is proud of his creation, a one of a kind food store, with the freshest ingredients, cooked a la minute, in a state of the art kitchen.

The place is designed to cater to visitors who wish to



buy quality meals, and enjoy them in their own hotel room, and for busy locals who want to upgrade their daily lunch and dinner experience with some of chef Sander delectable combinations to go.

Visit us at: WWW.THEKITCHENARUBA.COM For complete Menu and Wine List.

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Opposite Andina Ice and Just For Pets. Closed On Sundays

From the Menu:	
Appetizers Escargots - Herb Butter - Tomatoes - Bread bowl Beef Carpaccio - Mixed Lettuce - Balsamic Cream Seared Tuna - Wakame - Soy Dressing	\$ 8.00 \$ 9.00 \$ 9.00
Salads Grilled Vegetables - Coriander Cream Greek - Feta - Olives - Tomatoes - Tzaziki Caesar - Romaine - Parmesan - Croutons	\$ 8.00
Soups French Onion, Tomato Basil, or Seafood Chowder	\$ 5.00
Sandwiches - Wraps Black Angus Steak Sandwich or Wrap Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich or Wrap Black Angus Chuck Steak Burger	\$ 6.00
Sushi Rolls Fried Shrimp, California, Spicy Tuna, Caribbean, Philadelphia All Sushi Rolls Come With Pickled Ginger - Wasabi - Soy Sauce	\$ 9.00
From Our Wood Fired Grill Black Angus Skirt Steak - Chimichurri Sauce Black Angus Tenderloin - Fire Roasted Peppers - Jus de Veau Mixed Grill - Skirt Steak - Chorizo - Chicken Breast - Romesco Sauce Surf & Turf - Tenderloin - Shrimp - Herb Butter & Lime Grouper Milano - White Wine Sauce - Tomato - Mozzarella Gratin Brazilian Moqueca - Seafood Mix - Coconut Bell Pepper Sauce	\$ 13.00 \$ 14.00 \$ 14.00 \$ 10.50
Wok Specialties Teriyaki Veggie Stir-Fry - Tenderloin - Grouper Fillet - Seafood Mix All Entrees Are Served With Rice, Sautéed Potatoes, Stir-Fry Vegetable Brazilian Black Beans.	\$ 9.50 \$ 11.00
Pasta Dishes Seafood Fettuccine - Grouper - Shrimp - Mix - White Wine Sauce Farfalle Bolognese - Ground Angus Steak - Tomatoes - Mozzarella Chicken Alfredo - Vegetables - Fettuccine - Mozzarella	\$ 9.50
Deserts Grilled Pineapple - Bourbon Vanilla - Chardonnay Reduction Belgian Chocolate Mousse - Passion Fruit Coulis	\$ 3.00

Brazilian Mocha Pave - Coffee Sauce



Salt & Pepper is "our home away from home!"

PALM BEACH - Every year in May these 4 crazy ladies Rocky, Olivia, Susan & Nan, come to relax on Aruba and never skip visiting Salt & Pepper. They are welcomed with "Oh my goodness, you again!" but in a good way! Having these ladies at your table really is a pleasure... a lot to tell, lots of jokes and a lot to laugh. "Salt & Pepper is our home away from home" the ladies said. Of course they know about the concept of Salt & Pepper and bring in beautiful shakers for the collection. This time they came with nicely colored shells, shown on the picture by Cynthia and Merlijn who were lucky to be their servers.

Rocky, Olivia, Susan & Nan enjoyed the selection of tapas such as Parmesan mushrooms, piri piri chicken and mahi tempura paired with a good wine and martini. Tapas are well known to combine with Sangria so come to Salt & Pepper between 5 and 7 pm and receive a pitcher of S&P's home-made sangria for free.

Salt & Pepper is located at Arawak Garden, Palm Beach. In front of Occidental Grand. Opens at 8 am for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Bar till 1 am. Happy Hour 4-6 pm.



Tony Roma's is the island's headquarters for ribs!

Many restaurants claim to have the best ribs in the land, but only Tony Roma's world famous ribs continue to rack up taste awards from a variety of cities, regions, and countries across the globe. Tony Roma's Palm Beach brings this classic to Aruba.

Great ribs put Tony Roma's on the map, but the menu also features an array of flame-grilled favorites including steaks, seafood and chicken. The menu also serves up fresh salads, fantastic burgers and sandwiches, grilled fresh local fish, mouthwatering desserts and delicious appetizers especially the popular, made-fromscratch Onion Loaf.

Today, there are more than 240 locations on five continents. From Seattle to Miami, Tokyo to Madrid, and Calgary to Aruba, Tony Roma's is creating an international incident with its flame-grilled fare. Discover why Tony Roma's is now an island dining institution!









Lunch Specials from noon to 4:00pm

Chicken Jack & Bacon Sandwich \$9
Crispy Onion Burger\$9
Jamaican Sandwich\$9
Salad & Cup of Soup \$10
Half Slab Original Baby Back Ribs \$10
Bow Tie Pasta in Alfredo Sauce\$10
Bow Tie Pasta with Chicken
in Scampi Sauce\$12
Chicken Tender Platter\$13
Fish & Fries\$13
Chicken Stack with Pasta Alfredo \$14
Full Slab Original Baby Back Ribs \$15

Jamaican Grilled Chicken.....\$15

Arubu TODAY

Curacao featured in New York Times



CURACAO - The luxury real estate development ZenCity Resort in Curacao has been features in the New York times this morning in the "Breaking Ground" Column by New York Times Journalist Nick

Kaye.

The Article features a detailed description of the property as well as its construction progress.

morning in the "Breaking The article also gives a Ground" Column by New nice overview of Curacao York Times Journalist Nick and it's attractiveness to

Allen & Linda Peeler honored at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort, vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort they call their home away from home. Allen & Linda Peeler were honored as an Distinguished visitor for the Island of Aruba after coming to Aruba for 11 long years.

Pictured are ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with honorees and also Shirley from the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort

has truly brought Curacao and nightclubs. Nonstop in the limelight. flights to the island are

The article features AMENITIES such as a lakefront swimming pool and an indoor-outdoor fitness center. among others with prices starting for condominiums start at \$240,000 and villa-style residences start at \$390,000. The development broke ground early last year. Six model villas have been built, and more are now

and nightclubs. Nonstop flights to the island are available from Miami and elsewhere.

Breaking Ground covers projects planned, under construction, or recently completed that include weekend or vacation homes.

About ZenCity:

ZenCity Resort is project by renowed local entrepreneur Mahesh



an increasing number of American visitors as well as mentions the increase of new residential developments on the island.

The New York Times has a print circulation of 927,851 and receives 16,480,200 unique visitors to its Web site monthly. "Breaking Ground" is a weekly feature that showcases second homes and vacation homes in the planning or construction stages. The story ran both online and in print. This placement will give Curacao and the island's real estate sector a huge publicity boost. As Luxury and high profile developments like ZenCity continue bringing Curacao in the limelight it also continues to portray Curacao as a more sophisticated and well rounded travel destination. ZenCity Resort under construction. Work on the condo buildings is expected to begin this month.

This new development, ZenCity Resort is a gated project in the Vredenberg area just northeast of the lively capital, Willemstad. Its plans call for 36 two- to five-bedroom freestanding villas and 45 one- to fourbedroom condos in two buildings. The villas feature private pools and outdoor terraces, and the condos will include balconies and will be positioned around the center of the community near a lake and pool. Several popular beaches are reachable by car in only a few minutes. The capital, whose historic section has been listed as a Unesco World Heritage site since 1997, is filled with many popular restaurants, casinos Daswani. The property is a luxury lakeview gated community in Vredenberg, Curacao. The exciting new development consists of 36 spacious villas and multiple apartments.

Owners and Residents will enjoy lush landscaping, 24 hour security, and the comfort of an extremely central and convenient location. Each luxury residence is characterized by magnificent high tropical exposed roofs, large integrated outdoor terraces, and private swimming pools for each Villa. The Layout of the floor plans for each Villa have been carefully designed to integrate indoor and outdoor living areas through sliding doors. Covered private pergolated bedroom entrances add to the allure of ZenCity's Caribbean Villas.

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In this Thursday, May 13, 2010 photo, a man suffering from polio rides past on a make shift bike in Kano, Nigeria. At the World Health Organization's annual meeting of health ministers this week, experts are unveiling a new strategy that may be their last shot to wipe out the paralyzing disease.

(AP Photo/Sunday Alamba)

By MARIA CHENG, **AP Medical Writer**

GENEVA - For years, the world has been on the brink of wiping out polio, the deadly disease that can paralyze and kill children.

World Health

Organization's annual meeting of health ministers this week, experts are unveiling what they describe as a new strategy to get rid of the feared disease. But others say there is little new and that if this effort fails,

New strategy may be last shot to get rid of polio

about whether to continue the campaign should be raised.

Some experts say eradicating polio is impossible and should be abandoned. With a new target of stopping the virus by the end of 2012, this may be WHO and partners' best chance to get rid of polio before donors run out of money and patience.

Since WHO, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF and Rotary International set out to eradicate polio in 1988, they have come tantalizingly close. By 2003, cases had dropped by more than 99 percent. But progress has stalled since and several deadlines have been missed

Polio has virtually disappeared from the West but is entrenched in a handful of countries, namely Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan. The they may have turned a corner, disease mostly hits children under five and is spread via dirty water. WHO's new strategy targets problems in each country, provides more WHO monitoring, like more teleconferences, and holds governments more accountable. New outbreak response plans are also in place. Still, it is uncertain if more WHO oversight—which countries are free to ignore will make a difference.

Others said WHO has always tailored programs to focus on local problems in different countries.

"I'm not sure how the new strategy differs from the ones adopted in 2007, 2004, and 1999," said Dr. Donald Henderson, who headed WHO's smallpox eradication program. He said the strategy's main elements have mostly all been seen before.

Polio cases fell sharply last year and experts are optimistic though the disease's high season hasn't yet hit.

Dr. Paul Adovohepke, who heads UNICEF's polio team in Nigeria, said rumours about the vaccine's safety — which resulted in a yearlong suspension of polio campaigns in 2003 — seem to have subsided. He has seen Nigerians ask vaccinators to go into their homes to give the polio vaccine to their kids. "(That) was not possible in 2003," he said.

But recent surprises, like an outbreak in Tajikistan, which had been free of the disease for years, show how unpredictable the effort remains. WHO says it is still possible to get rid of polio and that to give up now would set loose a deadly virus.

"You don't eradicate polio from 124 countries by doing it wrong," said Dr. Bruce Aylward, who directs WHO's polio department.

CDC: Look before you leap into dirty public pools

there are serious questions

By MIKE STOBBE,

AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA – You might want to look before you leap into a public swimming pool this summer.

A new government report shows one in eight public swimming pools were shut down two years ago because of dirty water or other problems, like missing safety equipment.

Kiddie pools were most likely to be the germiest, from fecal matter and improper chlorination.

The report is based on more than 120,000 inspections of public swimming pools in 2008, including those in parks and hotels. It's the largest study of the topic ever done by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which released the report Thursday.

Each year, there are about 15 or 20 outbreaks from stomach bugs blamed on pools, the CDC said. Studies suggest a quarter of them are caused by bacteria, viruses or parasites that should have been killed by proper pool treatment and chlorination.

Fecal particles are a common factor, especially in kiddie pools and fountains where children frolic. But urine is also a problem: It contains nitrogen that eats up chlorine in pool water, depleting the supply. Sweat and suntan lotion have the same effect.

And about one in five adults admit they have peed in the pool, according to a survey of

1,000 Americans done last year for a chemical industry advisory group, the Water Quality and Health Council.

Reports of pool-related illness have been on the upswing for much of the last decade, but it's not clear whether conditions are worse or whether there's more awareness and testing, said Michele Hlavsa, chief of the CDC's swimming pool program.

"We definitely need to focus on improving pool operations," she added.

Before you go swimming, the CDC suggests buying test kits from hardware stores and checking the water at public pools. Health officials also say people who've had diarrhea shouldn't swim; and everyone should avoid swallowing pool water.

The inspections were done in 13 states, and pool regulations and reporting varied. The CDC report did not give a breakdown of pool closures from water quality problems or other issues, such as missing life rings or other safety equipment.

The CDC did a similar study in 2002 in five states. That smaller study found 1 in 12 inspections resulted in immediate closure. Neither has enough data to give a precise picture of the nation as a whole.

The new study is published in a CDC publication, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.



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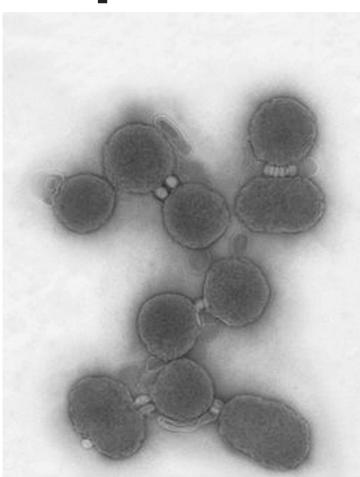
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A step to artificial life: Manmade DNA powers ce



This undated handout image provided by the J. Craig Venter Institute shows negatively stained transmission electron micrographs of aggregated M. mycoides. Scientists announced a bold step Thursday in the enduring quest to create artificial life. They've produced a living cell powered by manmade DNA.

(AP Photo/J. Craig Venter Institute)

By LAURAN NEERGAARD, **AP Medical Writer**

WASHINGTON - Scientists announced a bold Thursday in the enduring quest to create artificial life. They've produced a living cell powered by manmade DNA.

While such work can invoke images of Frankensteinlike scientific tinkering, it also is exciting hopes that it could eventually lead to new

fuels, better ways to clean polluted water, faster vaccine production and more.

Is it really an artificial life form?

The inventors call it the world's first synthetic cell, although this initial step is more a re-creation of existing life — changing one simple type of bacterium into another - than a built-from-scratch kind.

But Maryland genomemapping pioneer J. Craig Venter said his team's project paves the way for the ultimate, much harder goal: designing organisms that work differently from the way nature intended for a wide range of uses. Already he's working with ExxonMobil in hopes of turning algae into fuel.

"This is the first selfreplicating species we've had on the planet whose parent is a computer," Venter told reporters.

And the report, being published Friday in the journal Science, is triggering excitement in this growing field of synthetic biology.

"It's been a long time coming, and it was worth the wait," said Dr. George Church, a Harvard Medical School genetics professor. "It's a milestone that has potential practical applications."

Scientists for years have moved single genes and even large chunks of DNA from one species to another. At his J. Craig Venter Institute in Rockville, Md., and San Diego, Venter's team aimed to go further. A few years ago, the researchers transplanted an entire natural genome - the genetic code — of one bacterium into another and watched it take over, turning a goat germ into a cattle germ. Next, the researchers built from scratch another, smaller bacterium's genome, using

DNA fragments. Friday's report combines those

off-the-shelf laboratory-made

two achievements to test a big question: Could synthetic DNA really take over and drive a living cell? Somehow,

"This is transforming life totally from one species into another by changing the software," said Venter, using a computer analogy to explain the DNA's role.

The researchers picked two species of a simple germ named Mycoplasma. First, they chemically synthesized the genome of M. mycoides, that goat germ, which with 1.1 million "letters" of DNA was twice as large as the germ genome they'd previously

Then they transplanted it into a living cell from a different Mycoplasma species, albeit a fairly close cousin.

At first, nothing happened. The team scrambled to find out why, creating a genetic version of a computer proofreading program to spell-check the DNA fragments they'd pieced together.

They found that a typo in the genetic code was rendering the manmade DNA inactive, delaying the project three months to find and restore that

"It shows you how accurate it has to be, one letter out of a million," Venter said.

That fixed, the transplant worked. The recipient cell started out with synthetic DNA and its original cytoplasm, but the new genome "booted up" that cell to start producing only proteins that normally would be found in the copied goat germ.

The researchers had tagged the synthetic DNA to be able to tell it apart, and checked as the modified cell reproduced to confirm that new cells really looked and behaved like M. mycoides.

"All elements in the cells after some amount of time can be traced to this initial artificial DNA. That's a great accomplishment," said biological engineer Ron Weiss of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Even while praising the accomplishment "biomolecular engineering of the highest order," declared Deamer of University of California, Santa Cruz — many specialists say the work hasn't yet crossed the line of truly creating new life from scratch.

It's partially synthetic, some said, because Venter's team had to stick the manmade genetic code inside a living cell from a related species. That cell was more than just a container; it also contained its own cytoplasm — the liquid

In other words, the synthetic part was "running on the 'hardware' of the modern cell," University of Southern Denmark physics professor Steen Rasmussen wrote in the journal Nature, which on Thursday released essays of both praise and caution from eight leaders in the field.

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Friday, May 21, 2010 COMMENTARY

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Primary Politics

Susan Estrich

The first rule of primary elections is that they are completely different from general elections. What it takes to win a primary is often exactly the opposite of what it takes to win a general, which is why potentially strong general election candidates are often especially weak primary candidates, and vice versa.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger may be the most obvious case in point: Republican primary voters would never have picked him over a more conservative choice. He initially won in an "open" recall ballot, which is one reason he is sponsoring a referendum on next month's California primary ballot to make all primaries open.

General election voters might not have cared so much that former President George W. Bush was Sen. Arlen Specter's best friend until a year ago. But Neil Oxman's brilliant ad for Rep. Joe Sestak, D-Pa., reminding Democratic Party members that Specter only joined the party to save his job, may go down as the best ad of this season.

Add to that the fact that any Democratic woman over 40 will never forget Specter's merciless 1991 grilling of Anita Hill (to save his seat in 1992), and you have a recipe for primary disaster. Specter might have been able to beat a Republican in a general election, but he could not beat a real Democrat in a Democratic primary.

Some commentators may try to play primary day as a referendum on the Obama presidency and the Democratic Congress, but that hardly explains ophthalmologist Rand Paul's victory in Kentucky. Running against the man handpicked by Minority Leader and Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell, and endorsed by no less a Republican hero than former Vice President Dick Cheney, Dr. Paul's tea party steamrolled across the state.

Of course, the tea party movement had, and has, the power to influence elections. Even if they number "only" 18 percent, as some polls suggest, that's a major movement in Republican primaries. But 18 percent is a lot less in a general election, where 100 percent of the electorate is eligible to vote. Whether the tea party-backed Paul is the strongest Republican to run in November remains to be seen. My guess is that he is not.

If there is a theme coming out of this week's primaries, it is the familiar one — that contested primaries favor insurgent candidacies. Blanche Lincoln is in trouble from the left in the primary, but both she and her Democratic rival are trailing their conservative opponent in the general election match-up.

Elena Kagan and the case for an elitist Supreme Court

By Saul Cornell

New York – The announcement of Solicitor General Elena Kagan's nomination to fill the US Supreme Court seat being vacated by Justice John Paul Stevens has prompted a familiar complaint.

Ms. Kagan, so the argument goes, is a member of a small, well-educated elite; and as a product of the best schools, she is unrepresentative of the vast majority of the American people.

Arguments such as this one surface with some regularity in American politics, and it's most often heard as a cry from the right.

Elena Kagan: What question would you like to ask her? However, today's conservatives would do well to refresh their memories and take a few cues from such luminaries of American conservative thought as

Alexander Hamilton or John Adams. Indeed, criticism of Kagan's elitism sounds more like the complaints of the Anti-Federalist opponents of the Constitution than they do its Federalist defenders.

Among the fears raised by the Anti-Federalists more than 200 years ago, two recently revived during the debate over the Kagan nomination stand out:

If Kagan were approved, the new federal government would be dominated by the well educated, and the federal courts would be populated by judges of a legalistic caste of mind out of touch with the lives of ordinary Americans.

These arguments were taken to their absurd conclusion in the New York State constitutional ratification convention in 1788

As one Federalist wrote about his Anti-Federalist opponents, "the gentleman, sensible of the weakness of this reasoning, is obliged to fortify it by having recourse to the phantom aristocracy."

If government were not to be populated by citizens drawn from the ranks of "the wise, the learned, and those eminent for their talents or great virtues," who would be fit to serve?

The most famous, or perhaps infamous, invocation of this Anti-Federalist idea in modern American politics occurred when Richard Nixon nominated Judge G. Harrold Carswell of Tallahassee, Fla., to the Supreme Court in 1970.

In response to attacks on Carswell's qualifications, US Sen. Roman Hruska of Nebraska rose to reassert the Anti-Federalist vision of politics. "Even if he were mediocre," he asserted, "there are a lot of mediocre judges and people and lawyers.

They are entitled to a little representation, aren't they, and a little chance? We can't have all Brandeises, Frankfurters and Cardozos."

The Federalist Founders, it is important to recall, were drawn from a very small elite. They were champions of the ideal of natural aristocracy. Indeed, the very best among them were emblems of this ideal.

As it turns out, Princeton produced the largest share of college degrees among the members of the Constitutional Convention.

So, the fact that future Supreme Courts may have a Princeton majority should hardly be a cause for alarm. Then, as now, the Ivy League contained members of both the natural aristocracy of talent and the artificial aristocracy of privilege. Kagan is clearly representative of the former, not the latter.

In "The Federalist Papers," James Madison noted that one of the many virtues of the Federal system was that it would act as a filter, winnowing and refining the pool of candidates for federal office. The Founders were not antigovernment libertarians or populist democrats. They were chastened civic republicans who recognized that one of the most basic functions of government was to civilize and restrain the excesses of democracy.

The role of the Supreme Court in American history remains essentially countermajoritarian.

As Justice Robert Jackson noted more than half a century ago: "The very purpose of a Bill of Rights was to withdraw certain subjects from the vicissitudes of political controversy, to place them beyond the reach of majorities and officials and to establish them as legal principles to be applied by the courts."

To be sure, the high court is not immune to politics or the evolving traditions of American society. It is not, however, intended to be an exact mirror of the people. Among all institutions in American society, the Supreme Court is deliberately designed to be elitist in nature. The Founders recognized this fact, and the debate over future nominations to the Supreme Court ought to as well.

Saul Cornell, PhD, holds the Paul and Diane Guenther chair in American history at Fordham University. He is the author of "The Other Founders: Anti-Federalism & the Dissenting Tradition in America, 1788-1828" and "A Well-Regulated Militia: The Founding Fathers and the Origins of Gun Control in America."

Cuba e Iglesia conversan sobre liberación de presos

LA HABANA (Reuters) - La accionar, de tomar acciones Iglesia Católica y el Gobierno de Cuba entablaron inéditas conversaciones que podrían conducir a la liberación de presos políticos, dijo el jueves el cardenal Jaime Ortega.

Ortega sostuvo el miércoles una reunión de más de cuatro horas con el presidente Raúl Castro, en la cual pidió la excarcelación de disidentes presos.

"El camino está abierto, con perspectivas y esperanzas", dijo Ortega a periodistas en una rueda de prensa en el Arzobispado de La Habana. El cardenal no precisó si Castro se comprometió a liberar a algunos de los alrededor de 200 presos políticos, a los que su Gobierno comunista considera "mercenarios" a sueldo de Estados Unidos. "Se está tratando lo de los

presos, pero no puedo adelantar conclusiones acerca fechas concretas, actuaciones concretas", agregó Ortega. Más temprano, el presidente de

la Conferencia de Obispos de Cuba, Dionisio García, quien también participó en la reunión, dijo a Reuters que el Gobierno "está en la disposición de para ir resolviendo (...), ir encaminando una solución a estos problemas".

Castro ha dicho que no cedería al chantaje de Estados Unidos y otros enemigos, quienes exigen la liberación de los presos como condición para normalizar sus relaciones con

LA IGLESIA COMO **INTERLOCUTOR**

La primera reunión oficial sostenida por Castro con líderes católicos desde que reemplazó hace dos años en la presidencia a su convaleciente hermano Fidel ilustra el perfil cada vez mayor de la Iglesia Católica en el debate social en la isla

El cardenal Ortega advirtió en abril que Cuba enfrenta una situación "muy difícil" y la demora del Gobierno en introducircambioseconómicos "produce impaciencia malestar".

A comienzos de mayo, Ortega medió para que las autoridades frenaran el acoso de militantes comunistas a las Damas de Blanco, un grupo de madres y esposas de presos



Imagen de archivo del presidente de Cuba, Raúl Castro, en una ceremonia en el Palacio de la Revolución, en La Habana. Mar 1 2010. REUTERS/Enrique De La Osa/ARCHIVO

los domingos por una avenida Raúl Castro. de La Habana. Fue entonces El cardenal dijo el jueves que la

políticos que marchan todos que pidió una entrevista con

reunión con Castro consolida el papel de la Iglesia Católica como mediadora.

"Tiene el valor del reconocimiento de la Iglesia como interlocutora", afirmó. El encuentro de los obispos con Raúl Castro recibió amplia cobertura por la prensa estatal cubana.

Granma, el diario gobernante Partido Comunista, publicó el jueves fotografías del encuentro en su portada. El noticiero de la televisión abrió con imágenes -sin audio- de la reunión.

Disidentes cubanos reaccionaron escepticismo. Laura Pollán, líder de las Damas de Blanco, dijo esperar que el encuentro conduzcaa futuras liberaciones de presos políticos como su marido y medio centenar de disidentes encarcelados desde el 2003.

esperanzas, porque en realidad no hay nada cierto", sostuvo. El líder de la Comisión Cubana de Derechos Humanos, Elizardo Sánchez, comentó que podría tratarse de una "maniobra" del Gobierno cubano.

Presidente Lugo acepta prueba de ADN

ASUNCION (AP) - El presidente Fernando Lugo aceptó el jueves someterse a una prueba de ADN para determinar si es el padre de un párvulo de dos años cuya filiación es reclamada judicialmente por Hortensia Damiana Morán, la tercera mujer que dijo haber concebido un niño con el ex obispo católico.

"Cuando la justicia lo establezca, porque así dice la ley, el presidente dará la muestra para el ADN en la residencia oficial y el análisis se hará en el laboratorio que el juzgado determine", anunció Marcos Fariña, abogado del mandatario. La tercera demanda por filiación contra el jefe de estado es atendida actualmente por el juez Osvaldo Cáceres, del pueblo Augusto Saldívar, a 25 kilómetros al sur de Asunción, con jurisdicción sobre la zona donde reside Morán. El magistrado recibió el jueves una nota de urgimiento presentada por Morán para agilizar el análisis genético.

Mockus y Petro vuelven a habiar de posible alianza en Colombia

BOGOTA (Reuters) - Los candidatos del Partido Verde, Antanas Mockus, y del izquierdista del Polo Democrático Alternativo, Gustavo Petro, plantearon el jueves la posibilidad de una alianza de las dos fuerzas políticas para la segunda vuelta de las elecciones presidenciales de Colombia.

Las declaraciones de los dos dirigentes políticos representaron un cambio después de que la semana pasada Mockus descartó una alianza con Petro, al que acusó de justificar la violencia con sus posiciones ideológicas.

El candidato del Partido Verde se encuentra en un empate técnico con el oficialista y líder del Partido de la U. Juan Manuel Santos, de acuerdo con las encuestas sobre intención de voto que pronostican que ninguno obtendrá la mayoría absoluta en los comicios del 30 de mayo.

Esa situación obligaría a una segunda vuelta,

el 20 de junio, de acuerdo con las normas electorales de Colombia. "Hay algunas diferencias ideológicas. Admiro a Petro como político, admiro toda la lucha que adelantó al interior del Polo para deslindar el Polo de la lucha armada", dijo Mockus, un matemático de origen lituano que fue alcalde de Bogotá en dos ocasiones. Petro respondió que la propuesta de una posible alianza con el Partido Verde deberá ser analizada por el Polo Democrático si no pasa a la segunda vuelta. "Si Petro pasa a la segunda vuelta tenga la seguridad que invitaremos al Partido Verde para que nos ayude a ganar la presidencia de Colombia", dijo el dirigente político de izquierda. Los colombianos irán a las urnas en 10 días para elegir al sucesor del presidente Alvaro Uribe en las que se prevén serán las elecciones más reñidas en la historia reciente del país.

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